

APNewsbreak: FBI: Amazon drivers part of major theft ring

By GENE JOHNSON
Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — A theft ring in Washington state sold millions of dollars' worth of stolen goods on Amazon.com in the past six years, and a pair of Amazon delivery drivers was involved, recently unsealed federal court documents show. According to a search warrant affidavit unsealed in U.S. District Court in Seattle and reviewed by The Associated Press, two storefront businesses posing as pawn shops bought the goods from shoplifters, then had the items shipped to Amazon warehouses, where they were stored until sold online.

Entities associated with the alleged ringleader did at least \$10 million in sales on Amazon since 2013, FBI agent Ariana Kroshinsky wrote in her affidavit.

No charges have yet been filed, though investigators have raided the pawn shops and the home of the man identified as the ringleader, Aleksandr Pavlovskiy, 44, of Auburn. A man who answered the door at one of the shops Wednesday identified him-



In this Wednesday, July 31, 2019, photo a pawn shop alleged to have been a front for a theft ring stands closed in Renton, Wash. Associated Press

self as Alex and told The Associated Press his business was legitimate, that he kept good records and he should not be in any trouble.

Among those who provided stolen items to the pawn shops were two contract Amazon drivers, Kroshinsky said. Their job was to travel to Seattle-Tacoma Interna-

tional Airport, pick up items being returned to the company and then bring them to an Amazon warehouse south of Seattle, and to deliver items to post offices

for shipping. Instead, they routinely stole the goods and sold them to the pawn shops, she wrote.

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FBI: AMAZON

Continued from Front

Amazon did not immediately return an email seeking comment about the case Thursday.

The investigation began last summer when a police detective in Auburn, a south Seattle suburb, was perusing a record of pawn shop sales and noticed that one man had made 57 transactions. It turned out to be one of the drivers. He had received nearly \$30,000 selling items to the pawn shops between February and July last year, the affidavit said. Police initially arrested the driver, but released him from jail to avoid disrupting their larger investigation.

The other driver, identified as Abbas Zghair, was believed to be a roommate of the first. Amazon told investigators that Zghair stole about \$100,000 worth of property, including gaming systems, sporting goods and computer products — items he sold to one of the pawn shops for less than \$20,000, the agent wrote. In an unrelated case, Zghair has been charged with murder after police said he shot and killed a man in an Auburn field in March, then



In this Wednesday, July 31, 2019, photo a building that used to house office and storage space for a pawn shop alleged to have been a front for a theft ring stands empty in Kent, Wash.

Associated Press

fled to the Canadian border, where he was arrested trying to cross with a fake ID. He's being held on \$2.5 million bail. Detectives staked out the pawn shops, Innovation

Best in Kent and Thrift-Electro in Renton, and observed that they appeared to be paying shoplifters and drug users cash for new items from Home Depot, Lowes and Fred Meyer department stores. Unlike typical pawn shops, they didn't make sales; instead, the products were moved to a warehouse and to Amazon "fulfillment centers," from where they were shipped when they were sold on Amazon's website by sellers using the handles "Bestforyouall" or "Freeshipforyou," the affidavit said.

According to a database of pawnshop transactions reviewed by Auburn police, the suspect pawn shops paid more than \$4.1 million to sellers who brought them nearly 48,000 items in the past six years. The items included allergy medication, razors, electric toothbrushes and tools in their original packaging. Detectives also conducted undercover operations in which they sold new items in their original packaging to the shops, which accepted them no questions asked, Kroshinsky wrote.

The FBI said it is awaiting more Amazon records to determine the full extent of Pavlovskiy's enterprise, but

that "estimated revenue from Amazon sales, for entities associated with Aleksandr Pavlovskiy, was at least \$10 million since 2013." Pavlovskiy's lawyer, Cristine Beckwith, did not return a message seeking comment.

The sale of stolen or counterfeit goods on Amazon or other digital marketplaces is not uncommon, but it was not immediately clear how many other schemes had reached such a volume of sales. Last year, police raided a pawn shop in Monroe, north of Seattle, that they said had taken in \$428,000 fencing stolen items, much of it on Amazon.

Jon Reilly, a vice president for the digital consultancy firm Publicis Sapient and previously the head of e-commerce user experi-

ence for Amazon Devices, said preventing the sale of stolen goods is a major challenge for the company, but retailers can be held liable if they don't do enough to ensure they're not selling stolen goods. Because it's impossible for Amazon to review "every Tide pod" that's sold on its site, the company will likely need to do more to vet sellers, Riley said. "It's a little bit of an arms race for Amazon to be able to take in product, put it on the web and get it to their customers in a speedy fashion and not unwittingly sell stolen stuff at the same time," Reilly said. "Ultimately what Amazon has to do is show good faith if the government comes knocking on the door and says, 'Look, you're selling stolen goods.'" □

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Justice Department declines to prosecute Comey over memos

By ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department has declined to prosecute former FBI Director James Comey over his handling of a series of memos he wrote that documented personal interactions with President Donald Trump, a person familiar with the matter said Thursday.

The memos, some of which Justice Department officials later determined contained classified information, were written in the weeks and months before Comey's firing by Trump in May 2017. A week after he was fired, Comey authorized a friend to describe the contents of one of the memos to the news media. He has said his hope in having one of the memos become public was to spur the appointment of a special counsel to run the Justice Department's investigation into possible ties

between Russia and the Trump campaign.

The memos, taken together, reveal conversations with Trump that Comey has said unnerved him or made him uncomfortable. Those include a White House dinner at which Comey says Trump asked him for his loyalty, and a private Oval Office discussion where the ex-FBI head said the president asked him to end an investigation into Michael Flynn, the former White House national security adviser.

FBI agents collected four memos from Comey's house one month after he was fired, according to court documents made public this week as part of a lawsuit by the organization Judicial Watch.

In court documents arguing against the public release of the memos, the FBI has contended that the memos include "highly sensitive information" about the Rus-

sia probe as well as certain classified details, including the code name and true identity of a source and details of foreign intelligence information.

Comey has said he took pains to document other information in an unclassified manner so that it could be made public and discussed out in the open. That includes his February 2017 conversation about Flynn, the topic of the first memo described to the media.

"So my thinking was, if I write it in such a way that I don't include anything that would trigger a classification, that'll make it easier for us to discuss, within the FBI and the government, and to — to hold on to it in a way that makes it accessible to us," Comey said at a June 2017 hearing.

The memos, some of which Comey described in a book released last year, were also pieces of evi-



In this Dec. 17, 2018, file photo, former FBI Director James Comey speaks to reporters on Capitol Hill Washington.

Associated Press

dence in special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation.

The person who confirmed the Justice Department's decision was not authorized to discuss it by name and spoke on condition of anonymity to The Associated Press.

A lawyer for Comey declined to comment. John

Lavinsky, a spokesman for the Justice Department's inspector general, which had been investigating, said he could not confirm or deny the existence of an investigation. The inspector general's office is also expected to release in coming months an investigation into the origins of the FBI's Russia probe. □

Trump says he'll put 10% tariffs on remaining China imports

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump intensified pressure Thursday on China to reach a trade deal by saying he will impose 10% tariffs Sept. 1 on the remaining \$300 billion in Chinese imports he hasn't already taxed. The move immediately sent stock prices sinking.

The president has already imposed 25% tariffs on \$250 billion in Chinese products, and Beijing has retaliated by taxing \$110 billion in U.S. goods.

U.S. consumers will likely feel the pain if Trump proceeds with the new tariffs. Trump's earlier tariffs had been designed to minimize the impact on ordinary Americans by focusing on industrial goods. But the new tariffs will hit a vast range of consumer products from cellphones to silk scarves.

The president's announcement via Twitter came as a surprise, in part because the White House on Wednesday had said Beijing confirmed that it planned to increase its purchases of



Chinese Vice Premier Liu He, center, poses with U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, right, and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, for photos before holding talks at the Xijiao Conference Center in Shanghai Wednesday, July 31, 2019.

American farm products. That word came just as U.S. and Chinese negotiators were ending a 12th round of trade talks in Shanghai, which the White House called "constructive." Though the negotiations

concluded without any sign of a deal, they are scheduled to resume next month in Washington. The Dow Jones Industrial Average, which had been up nearly 300 points earlier in the day, was down near-

ly 200 points after Trump's tweets announcing the new tariffs. The Dow closed for the day down 280 points — more than 1 percent. Trump has long said he was preparing to tax the \$300 billion in additional Chinese tariffs. But he had suspended the threat after meeting with President Xi Jinping in Osaka, Japan, in June. It isn't clear when American consumers are likely to feel the impact of the additional tariffs, but higher prices could show up in stores this fall.

"Attention all Target & Wal-Mart shoppers ... the price on the goods you buy ahead of the holidays are going up due to trade policy," tweeted Joseph Bruehl, chief economist at the consultancy RSM. Besides announcing the additional tariffs on Chinese imports, Trump tweeted that "we look forward to continuing our positive dialogue with China on a comprehensive Trade Deal, and feel that the future between our two countries will be a very bright one!"

The president accused Beijing of failing to follow through on stopping the sale of fentanyl to the United States or on purchasing large quantities of farm goods such as soybeans.

Speaking to reporters Thursday at the White House, Trump complained that President Xi is "not moving fast enough."

Trump said he scheduled the additional tariffs to begin Sept. 1 to give exports already en route from China time to get to the United States — a journey that can take three or four weeks. By setting the import taxes at 10%, he has leeway to ratchet them higher if necessary to further increase pressure on Beijing.

"Until such time as there's a deal," Trump said, "we'll be taxing them."

The world's two biggest economies are locked in a trade war over U.S. allegations that Beijing uses predatory tactics — including stealing trade secrets and forcing foreign companies to hand over technology — in a drive to overtake American technological dominance.

Talks had broken down in May after the United States accused the Chinese of renegeing on earlier commitments.

"The fact that this tweet comes after only one meeting with the Chinese delegation following the resumption of talks is extremely concerning," said Rick Helfenbein, president of the American Apparel & Footwear Association.

Wendy Cutler, a former U.S. trade negotiator who is now vice president at the Asia Society Policy Institute, said: "These talks are not getting any easier. I don't expect the Chinese to sit by ... The combination of these latest tariffs, with Chinese counter-retaliation, is going to take a heavy toll on U.S. consumers, workers, farmers and businesses."

Trump's trade war and its consequences were a key factor in the Federal Reserve's decision Wednesday to cut interest rates in an otherwise healthy U.S. economy. During a news conference, Chairman Jerome Powell pointed repeatedly to the uncertainty caused by Trump's pursuit of trade wars on multiple fronts as a reason for the rate cut. □

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ONLINE****E-cigarette giant Juul's campaign donations favor Democrats**By **RICHARD LARDNER** and
MATTHEW PERRONE
Associated Press**WASHINGTON (AP)** — E-cigarette giant Juul Labs gave nearly \$100,000 to members of Congress during the first half of 2019 as the company faced the bulk of the blame for a surge of underage vaping and calls for tighter government regulation of the industry.

The donations from Juul's political action committee represent a sharp increase over last year's total, according to a Federal Election Commission report released Thursday that shows most of the money went to Democrats.

The boost in contributions is the latest sign of the company's expanding influence operation in Washington and around the country. An explosion of underage vaping has put Juul in the crosshairs of a number of Democrats, who have charged the company's early advertising and marketing led to the current wave of vaping by American teens.

Juul is ramping up its political giving as Congress considers legislation to raise the minimum age to purchase all tobacco and vaping products from 18 to 21.

Juul and cigarette maker Altria — which controls 35 percent of the vaping company — have backed a Senate bill that raises the age nationally. The bill does not include additional measures that anti-tobacco groups say are needed to curb youth use, such as banning flavored products and online sales. Ted Kwong, a spokesman for Juul, said in a statement the company strongly prefers to support bills to raise the purchase age that are

free of additional provisions "as we believe it is one of the most effective ways to prevent underage use."

The new FEC figures show that Democrats, who won control of the House during last year's elections, received \$74,000 from Juul's PAC between January 1 and June 30 while Republicans received \$22,500. Juul also gave \$2,500 to a left-leaning group called Vote-Vets.

Kwong said the company "strives to support candidates on both sides of the aisle" as part of its mission to "improve the lives" of smokers and "combat underage use."

Juul donated \$2,500 to Rep. Sanford Bishop, D-Ga. Bishop has co-sponsored legislation to exempt most e-cigarettes on the market from health reviews by the Food and Drug Administration. Rep. Cedric Richmond, D-La., received \$7,500, the largest donation to a single lawmaker. Richmond is co-chairman of Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden's campaign and a former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus.

The company gave \$5,000 each to the Congressional Black Caucus and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus' political action committees.

The company also gave \$2,500 the ASPIRE political action committee that raises money for Asian Ameri-

can candidates for Congress. Juul gave \$5,000 to New Hampshire Democrat Jeanne Shaheen, who has called e-cigarette companies the "culprits of this epidemic" of underage vaping.

Legislation introduced by Shaheen would force manufacturers to fund anti-vaping education and prevention efforts for teenagers through federal user fees. Sens. Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona and Catherine Cortez Masto of Nevada, both Democrats, each received \$5,000 from Juul.

Juul executives have said the company never intended its e-cigarettes to be adopted by underage teenagers. During a congressional hearing last week, Juul co-founder James Monsees testified that Juul developed its blockbuster vaping device and flavor pods for adult smokers who want to stop. "Combating underage use" is the company's highest priority, Monsees added.

Most health experts say that e-cigarettes are probably less harmful than traditional paper-and-tobacco cigarettes, which cause cancer, lung disease and stroke. But neither Juul nor any other e-cigarette has yet been approved by the FDA to help smokers quit.

Juul has assembled an extensive network of lobbyists amid mounting concern over e-cigarettes and

**In this July 25, 2019, file photo, JUUL Labs co-founder and Chief Product Officer James Monsees testifies before a House Oversight and Government Reform subcommittee on Capitol Hill in Washington.**

Associated Press

warnings from the FDA that regulatory steps may be inevitable to combat what public health officials and anti-smoking groups have described as an epidemic of youth vaping.

The company also has become a generous political

donor, giving tens of thousands of dollars over the last 18 months to candidates for state and national offices as well as political organizations, according to the Federal Election Commission data and state campaign finance records. □

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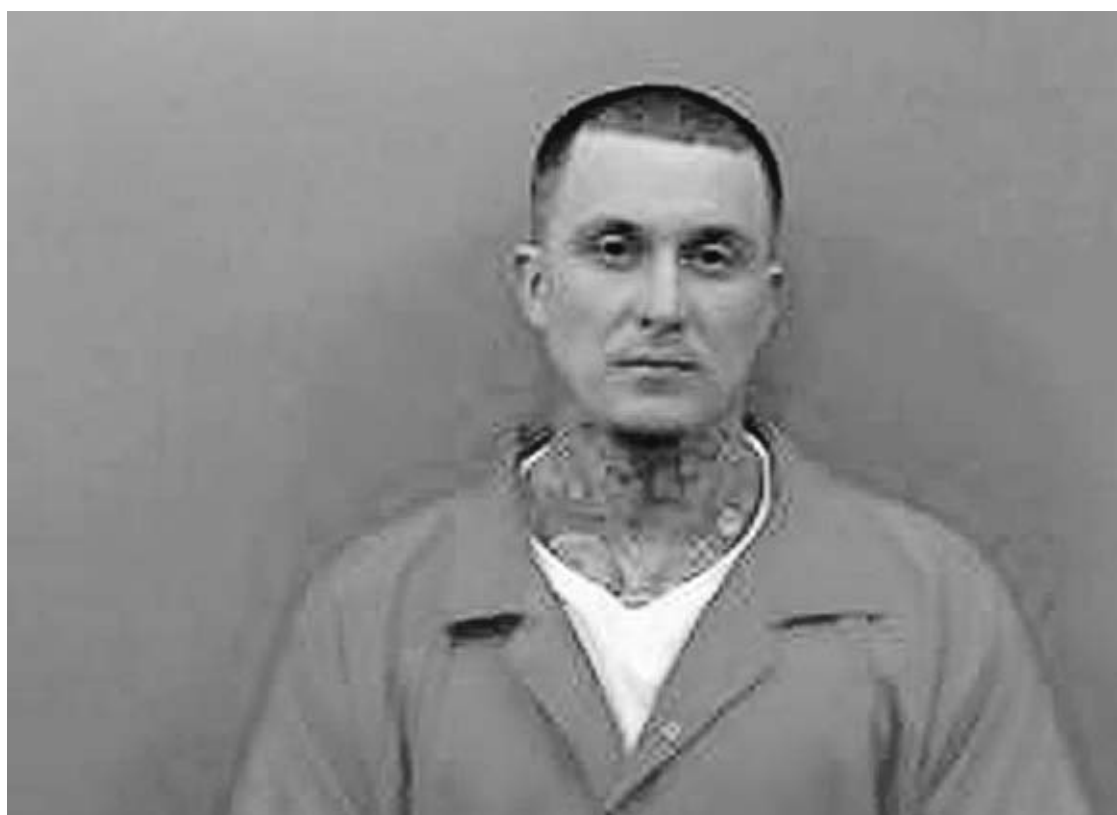
Feds: White supremacist gang leader who fled jail captured

PINE BLUFF, Ark. (AP) — Authorities on Thursday captured a white supremacist gang leader who escaped from an Arkansas jail with another inmate and whose disappearance may have gone unnoticed for more than a day.

Wesley Gullett, 30, was captured after he was found walking alone down a highway in Dover, which is about 100 miles (160 kilometers) northwest of the Jefferson County jail he escaped from, authorities said. He surrendered without incident and was taken to the Pope County jail. The other escaped inmate, Christopher Sanderson, remained at large.

"Through the diligent efforts of our federal, state, and local law enforcement partners, Wesley Gullett has been apprehended," Cody Hiland, U.S. attorney for the eastern district of Arkansas, said in a statement. "He will remain in federal custody and ultimately will have his day in court."

Jefferson County Sheriff Lafayette Woods told the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette that the men were last seen at the county jail in Pine Bluff at around 8:30 p.m. Monday. But it wasn't until 4:30 a.m. on Wednesday that officials noticed they were missing, even though Woods told the Pine Bluff Commercial that several



In this undated booking photo provided by the Jefferson County, Ark., Sheriff's Office, Wednesday, July 31, 2019 shows Wesley Gullett.

other inmates tried to escape Tuesday but were quickly captured after a drone spotted them on the roof.

Woods didn't immediately reply to Associated Press phone messages left Thursday seeking comment.

Maj. Randy Dolphin, the sheriff's office operations commander, told The Associated Press on Thursday that investigators still don't know whether the two were gone all day Tuesday from the roughly 300-inmate jail in Pine Bluff, which

is about 40 miles (65 kilometers) south of Little Rock.

Dolphin said jailers are supposed to conduct the checks three times every 12-hour shift.

Gullett and Sanderson put padding in their bunks to make it look as if they were asleep, then climbed onto the jail's roof and over a fence to escape, the Democrat-Gazette reported. Jailers doing head counts are supposed to physically confirm that inmates are in their bunks if they don't see movement, but they didn't

do so, Woods said.

"I'm going to be honest with you, it comes back down to complacency, comes down to just being lazy and not paying attention to what we're doing. And so at this point, we're handling that internally with our staff," Woods told Little Rock television station KATV.

Gullett is among 54 members of the New Aryan Empire who have been indicted on federal charges and is listed in court documents as the gang's "outside"

president who oversaw all gang activities by members who weren't in prison. Prosecutors say the gang has about 5,000 members. Sanderson, 34, was being held on federal gun and drug charges.

Prosecutors say the New Aryan Empire began as a prison gang in the 1990s but now engages in drug trafficking, witness intimidation and acts of violence, including attempted murder, kidnapping and assault. Indictments were originally returned in 2017 accusing 44 members of the gang with drug and gun crimes, but additional members were named in February for alleged involvement in violent crimes committed by the group.

Gullett's attorney declined to comment on Thursday.

Gullett is accused of attempting to kill Bruce Wayne Hurley, of Atkins, who told law enforcement about an associate of the gang's drug dealing. Hurley was shot dead at his home in May 2016, but the indictment doesn't say who authorities believe killed him.

A magistrate judge in March rejected Gullett's request for a temporary release to attend his father's funeral after prosecutors argued that he posed a serious danger to the community and was a flight risk. □

Kentucky pipeline blast leaves 1 dead, 5 injured

JUNCTION CITY, Ky. (AP) — A regional gas pipeline ruptured early Thursday in Kentucky, causing a massive explosion that killed one person, hospitalized five others, destroyed railroad tracks and forced the evacuation of a nearby mobile home park, authorities said.

Some homes were consumed by the blaze when firefighters extinguished the flames hours later, Lincoln County Emergency Management Director Don Gilliam said.

"The part of the area that has been compromised, there's just nothing left," Gilliam said when asked whether residents might re-

turn to their trailer homes. "The residences that are still standing or damaged will be accessible. There doesn't really look like there's any in-between back there. They're either destroyed or they're still standing."

Kentucky State Police spokesman Robert Purdy said at least five homes were completely destroyed and structures within 500 yards (457 meters) had damage. He said a handful of people who were missing after the blast have now been accounted for.

The 30-inch (76-centimeter) wide pipeline moves natural gas under such high pressure that the flames

reached about 300 feet (91 meters) in the air and could be seen throughout the county, he said.

The explosion around 1 a.m. was so huge that it showed up on radar, according to a tweet from WKYT-TV meteorologist Chris Bailey. It took hours for firefighters to douse the flames, with trucks repeatedly refilling their tanks and returning to the scene.

Purdy said the fire burned so hot that it left the landscape barren, burning trees and grass and leaving only red dirt, rocks and gravel.

Nearby residents said they were awakened by the initial blast.

Naomi Hayes told The As-

sociated Press that she lives within a mile of the scene and felt her home shake, then saw light outside the window.

"When we went out the door, we could see the flames. They were so high and so bright ... and the noise was insane," she said about the burning fire. "It was a roar, like a monster roar. We had to yell to talk to each other. That's how deafening it was."

Another nearby resident, Sue Routin, told WLEX-TV that the blast shook her home too.

"It woke us up and it was just a big roar and it was fire going up into the sky as far as you could see," she

said. "Our windows were shaking really bad, and our doors and the ground, you could hear the ground just moving and tumbling and rolling. And then we got to feeling the heat from the fire, so we got in our vehicle and took off to get away from it."

Purdy said the woman who died was taken to the medical examiner's office in Frankfort to determine her cause of death. Purdy said it appears she may have left her home due to the fire and was overtaken by the heat. Lincoln County Coroner Farris Marcum identified the woman as Lisa Denise Derringer, 58, of Stanford. □

Police in probe that led to Stormy Daniels arrest charged

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) —

Five officers associated with an undercover investigation that led to Stormy Daniels' arrest at a strip club last year face discipline, the Columbus police department announced. The department said Wednesday that the officers could face punishment ranging from a reprimand to firing. The officers include a commander, lieutenant, sergeant and two of the arresting officers, all part of a vice unit that was later disbanded.

Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, was arrested at Sirens in July 2018 on suspicion of inappropriately touching an undercover officer. Prosecutors dropped charges against Daniels hours later, saying the law cited in her arrest applied only to those who regularly performed at the club.

An investigation into the arrest included a look at allegations that officers conspired to retaliate against the porn actress over her claims that Donald Trump had sex with her before he was elected president.

Those allegations against police are included in Daniels' federal defamation lawsuit for \$2 million in federal court in Columbus. That lawsuit was filed in January against several Columbus police officers.

The police department announced this year that an internal review found the arrest was improper but not planned or politically motivated. And the city attorney has said in responses to Daniels' lawsuit that the city denies that it "approved of and/or condoned any alleged harassment."

Chase Mallory, an attorney representing Daniels in her defamation lawsuit, said Thursday that he would disagree with any finding "that the arrest wasn't politically motivated or at least motivated by improper reasons."

"From our initial review of the facts, it was clear that Stormy was targeted for a high-profile arrest," he said. Interim police Chief Tom Quinlan made the decision



In this April 16, 2018, file photo, adult film actress Stormy Daniels speaks outside federal court in New York.

Associated Press

to charge the five officers departmentally because they "violated the Columbus Division of Police rules of conduct," according to Wednesday's release.

The department on Thursday released documents detailing the charges after initially saying Wednesday that it wouldn't provide further information because of the pending litigation and a concurrent FBI investigation into the activities of the vice unit.

The documents released Thursday contain charges accusing one officer of giving approval to the raid and not giving "proper weight to the potential negative consequences." Charges against some officers include not properly supervising subordinates and not ensuring that subordinates properly documented the hours they worked. The documents associated with charges against some officers also indicate the actions taken at the club "deviated significantly" from previous investigations at other strip clubs. "This arrest was not like any other strip club investigations because in the other strip club investigations, all charges were filed at a later time, or the offender was released on summons," Quinlan wrote. Two of the officers are accused of making an im-

proper arrest of Daniels and of failing to submit accurate timekeeping records, among other charges. The documents also charge that one of those officers didn't follow protocol by interviewing Daniels while she was in the back of a prisoner transport vehicle. Each officer will have a hearing before Quinlan this month.

A message seeking comment was left Thursday with the president of the Fraternal Order of Police Capital City Lodge No. 9, which represents the officers.

The vice unit was disbanded in March. Quinlan has said that vice-related crimes going forward will be handled differently and with a more community-based approach. □



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Partial Dutch ban on face-covering clothing takes effect

By MIKE CORDER

Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands

(AP) — A new Dutch law took effect Thursday banning face-covering clothing — including the burqa and niqab worn by conservative Muslim women — on public transportation, in government buildings and at health and education institutions.

The Netherlands, long seen as a bastion of tolerance and religious freedom, is the latest European country to introduce such a ban, following the likes of France, Germany, Belgium, Austria and Denmark.

Muslim and rights groups have voiced opposition to the law — formally called the "partial ban on face-covering clothing" — and an Islamic political party in Rotterdam has said it will pay the 150-euro (\$167) fines for anybody caught breaking it.

There were no immediate reports Thursday morning of anybody being fined under the new law, which was passed despite the fact that very few women in the



In this Monday Jan. 21, 2013 file photo, a woman wearing a full-face veil known as niqab, pushes a baby stroller on snow-covered streets in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Associated Press

Netherlands wear a burqa or niqab — estimates put the number at a few hundred in this nation of 17 million.

Anti-Islam lawmaker Geert Wilders, whose calls for a total burqa ban ignited more than a decade of debate before parliament approved the law last year,

welcomed the introduction of the limited ban as "a historic day" and called for it to be expanded to include Islamic headscarves.

"I believe we should now try to take it to the next step," Wilders told The Associated Press in a telephone interview. "The next step to make it sure that the headscarf could be banned in the Netherlands as well."

The Dutch government has insisted that its partial ban doesn't target any religion and that people are free to dress how they want. A government site explaining the new ban says, however, that "this freedom is limited at locations where communication is vital for good quality service or for security in society."

Wilders dismissed that ex-

planation as political correctness.

Interior Minister Kajsa Ollongren, who wasn't available for comment Thursday, said earlier this year that the government will evaluate the new law after three years — usually such evaluations follow five years after a new law is implemented. It remains to be seen how strenuously the law will be enforced in the Netherlands. The national federation of academic hospitals said in a statement that enforcement is up to police and prosecutors. It added: "We are not aware of any cases in which wearing face-covering clothing or a possible ban has led to problems" in health care.

The head of the umbrella organization of public transport companies also has said that bus drivers and train conductors don't have the power to enforce it and would have to leave it up to police.

The Dutch ban came into force eight years after France became the first European nation to ban the public use of veils, both face-covering niqabs and full-body burqas. □

Iran president: US sanctions on foreign minister 'childish'

By MEHDI FATTAHI

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) —

Iran's president lambasted new U.S. sanctions by the Trump administration targeting the country's foreign minister, describing the move on Thursday as "childish" and a barrier to diplomacy.

Hassan Rouhani's remarks came after the Trump administration announced Wednesday it had imposed financial sanctions on Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif as part of its escalating campaign of pressure against the Islamic Republic.

The highly unusual action of penalizing another nation's top diplomat followed President Donald Trump's executive order placing sanctions on Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah

Ali Khamenei.

"They have started doing childish things," Rouhani said in a speech in western Azerbaijan province.

"Every day they claim: 'We want to negotiate with Iran, without any pre-conditions', and then they put sanctions on the country's foreign minister," he said.

These new sanctions come amid a spike in tensions between the U.S. and Iran. The U.S. has boosted its military presence in the Persian Gulf while Iran has begun openly exceeding limits on its nuclear activities set in a 2015 accord with world powers.

Trump withdrew the United States from that pact before imposing crippling sanctions on the country, targeting key industries like

Iran's oil exports and sending its economy into free fall.

Zarif, a relative moderate within Iran's clerically overseen political system, was an architect of the nuclear deal, which offered Iran sanctions relief in exchange for internationally-monitored limits on its nuclear program.

U.S. sanctions targeting the foreign minister, however, do not inhibit Zarif's travels to New York for official United Nations business, in accordance with America's international obligations. They also have little impact on Zarif financially.

"It has no effect on me or my family, as I have no property or interests outside of Iran," Zarif himself tweeted about the U.S. move. □

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Boris Johnson's Conservatives face test in special election

LONDON (AP) — After a first week in office that saw him booed in Scotland and berated in Belfast, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson was facing his first electoral test on Thursday — a special election that could see his Conservative government's working majority in Parliament cut to just one vote. Voters are electing a lawmaker in a by-election for the seat of Brecon and Radnorshire in Wales after Conservative incumbent Chris Davies was ousted. He was dumped by a petition of local electors after being convicted of a 700-pound (\$847) expenses fraud.

Davies is running to regain the seat but faces a strong challenge from the Liberal Democrats' Jane Dodds in a vote overshadowed by Brexit. Polls close at 10 p.m. (2100 GMT), with results expected early Friday. In Britain's 2016 referendum on leaving the European Union, the Brecon constituency — a hilly, largely rural area about 175 miles (280 kilometers) west of London — voted by 52%-48% to leave the EU, an outcome that exactly matched the national result.

As in the rest of the U.K., the area's voters remain deeply divided over the decision — and over the fact that, three years later, Britain is still a member of the 28-nation bloc.

Johnson became prime minister last week after winning a Conservative leadership race by vowing to take Britain out of the EU on Oct. 31, with or without a divorce deal.

The Conservatives hope



Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson speaks during the first meeting of the National Policing Board at the Home Office in London, Wednesday, July 31, 2019.

Associated Press

Johnson's commitment to complete Brexit "come what may" will neutralize a challenge from the new Brexit Party, led by longtime euroskeptic Nigel Farage.

The pro-EU Liberal Democrats are hoping to win support from Welsh voters opposed to Brexit.

The centrist Liberal Democrats hold just 12 of the 650 seats in the House of Commons but have seen their support surge because of their call for Britain to remain in the EU. In European Parliament elections in May, the party took 20% of U.K. votes, trouncing both the Conservatives and the main opposition Labour Party, whose leadership is divided over Brexit.

Johnson, who visited the area Tuesday, said "a vote for any party other than Conservatives pushes the Liberal Democrats one step closer to cancelling the

(Brexit) referendum result." While many farmers back Brexit out of frustration with the EU's rules-heavy Common Agricultural Policy, sheep farmers in Brecon worry that, without an EU divorce deal, steep tariffs on lamb exports will devastate their business.

Johnson was criticized by Welsh farmers and booed in the Welsh capital, Cardiff, this week during his first tour of the U.K. as prime minister.

He also faced jeers from Scottish independence protesters in Edinburgh and censure from politicians in Scotland and Northern Ireland. Both areas voted to remain in the EU, and many residents resent being forced to leave the bloc against their will.

Johnson has just over 90 days to secure and ratify a new divorce deal with the EU, or get Britain ready to

leave the 28-nation bloc without one. Lawmakers are unlikely to make it easy for him.

The Conservatives lack an overall majority in the House of Commons, and rely on an alliance with 10 lawmakers from Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionist Party. If the Conservatives lose the Brecon seat, the governing alliance will have 320 of the 639 voting lawmakers — the bare minimum needed to carry votes.

That will leave Johnson's government struggling to pass any legislation and vulnerable to an opposition no-confidence vote that could trigger an early general election.

Lawmakers in Parliament previously voted to prevent Johnson's predecessor, Theresa May, from taking Britain out of the EU without a deal, and pro-EU

lawmakers say they will try to stop Johnson from doing the same thing.

Johnson says he wants a Brexit deal, but is demanding the EU make major changes to the divorce agreement it struck with May, which was rejected three times by Britain's Parliament. The EU is adamant that it won't renegotiate.

European Commission spokeswoman Mina Andreva said Thursday the Brexit "withdrawal agreement is not up for re-opening."

Economists say a no-deal Brexit would severely disrupt trade and plunge the U.K. into recession. Johnson's hard-line stance has unnerved currency markets, where the pound fell to a new 28-month low on Thursday of \$1.2085.

The Bank of England on Thursday slashed its U.K. growth forecast for this year and next to 1.3% — from its previous 1.5% and 1.6% — because of Brexit uncertainty.

Governor Mark Carney said a no-deal Brexit would deliver an "instantaneous shock" to the economy in which the pound would fall, inflation would rise and GDP would slow.

The government insists it can ease the shock of a no-deal Brexit by being prepared, and has set aside more than 2 billion pounds (\$2.4 billion) for measures including hiring 500 border officers, stockpiling essential medicines and mounting a public information campaign.

Opponents called the measures a waste of cash.

□

Rebel missile, suicide attack kill dozens in Yemen's port

By MAGGIE MICHAEL

AHMED AL-HAJ

Associated Press

ADEN, Yemen (AP) — Yemen's main southern city of Aden was shaken by double attacks Thursday, as a missile fired by rebels hit a military parade and suicide bombers blasted a police station. At least 51 people were killed in the deadliest day in nearly two years in the de facto capital of the U.S.- and Saudi-backed side in Yemen's civil war. Most of the dead came from the missile strike, which slammed into a parade of newly graduated fighters belonging to a militia loyal to the United Arab Emirates, known as the Security Belt.

Among the dead was a senior commander in the militia, Monier al Yafie, also known by his nickname Aboul Yamama, a security official told The Associated Press. Aboul Yamama had just given a speech to the graduates and had stepped offstage to get a drink of water when the missile struck the al-Galaa base. His body was torn in



Civilians gather at the site of a deadly attack in Aden, Yemen, Thursday, Aug. 1, 2019.

Associated Press

half, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to release the details.

At least 40 people were killed at the base on Aden's western outskirts, a health official said.

The earlier attack at the police station in the central Omar al-Mokhtar neigh-

borhood of Aden, was believed to have been carried out by Islamic militants. The violence left at least 56 people wounded, health officials said.

It pointed to the multiple dangers facing the port city, even though Yemen's 4-year-old civil war is locked in a stalemate.

The northern part of Yemen

is controlled by the Iranian-backed rebels, known as Houthis, who have positions on front lines as close as 100 kilometers (60 miles) from Aden and often hit it and nearby areas with missiles or bombs dropped by drones.

Islamic militants — from both al-Qaida and an Islamic State group affiliate

— also operate in Aden. Their mass bombings had become less frequent, though assassinations and shootings regularly take place.

Aden is also at the center of stormy and often violent divisions within the Saudi-led coalition fighting the Houthis. Ostensibly, the coalition aims to restore Yemen's internationally recognized government, driven out of the capital of Sanaa in the Houthis' 2014 takeover. But the UAE, a coalition member, dominates Aden and the south through militias like the Security Belt that it funds and arms, sidelining the government. Pro-UAE and pro-government militias waged bloody battles in Aden in early 2017 — fighting that Aboul Yamama was involved in. Since then, such violence has eased. But the UAE has begun withdrawing thousands of its troops from Yemen, saying it wants to give a boost to peace talks with the Houthis. Its reduced presence could open up factional tensions once more. □

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Former Maldives vice president stopped entering India

Associated Press

MALE, Maldives (AP) — Police in the Maldives said Thursday that they are seeking the return from India of the country's former vice president who they accuse of fleeing the Indian Ocean archipelago nation to avoid police questioning over embezzlement of state funds.

Indian External Affairs Ministry spokesman Raveesh Kumar confirmed that the former vice president, Ahmed Adeeb, tried to enter India by sea Thursday and not through a designated point of entry and without proper documents.

The Maldives police statement said Adeeb was to be questioned Wednesday over the alleged embezzle-

ment of state funds, but he did not report and instead fled the country. Adeeb has had his passport confiscated by a court order due to pending court cases, the police statement said.

Adeeb had recently been freed from a 33-year jail sentence over corruption and terrorism related to an alleged assassination attempt on former president Yameen Abdul Gayoom. He had been arrested and jailed in 2016 after a blast on Yameen's speedboat. Yameen's wife was slightly injured in the blast.

FBI officials assisting in the probe said that they did not trace any explosives in the boat and Adeeb's jailing was criticized as politically motivated. □



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Mozambique peace accord brings hope of economic growth

By ANDREW MELDRUM

Associated Press

GORONGOSA NATIONAL PARK, Mozambique (AP)

— Mozambique's president signed a peace accord Thursday with the country's main opposition party Renamo to end decades of hostilities that followed a devastating 15-year civil war that killed an estimated 1 million people.

The ceremony, held in a national wildlife park that was a rebel stronghold and a center of the conflict, brought hope for a new era of peace and economic growth in one of the world's poorest countries, where an estimated 70% of the population lives on less than \$2 per day.

It came as more than 5,200 of the former rebel group's fighters were disarming just weeks before a visit by Pope Francis and a national election that will test the resolve of the two parties to sustain the peace.

"We are living in a moment of hope. This is the moment of our reconciliation," President Filipe Nyusi told a cheering, ululating crowd in Gorongosa National Park, which he said was chosen for the signing because it was where the conflict began and would now be a "sanctuary of peace and biodiversity."

Renamo leader Ossufo Momade also pledged that the warring sides had put aside their hostilities.

"We are now brothers in peace," he declared. "With this signing we are showing all Mozambicans and the world that we have buried our legacy of violence and now we are committed to dialogue to resolve our differences."

The permanent ceasefire was the culmination of years of negotiations to end the fighting that has



Mozambique President Filipe Nyusi, right, and Renamo leader Ossufo Momade hug each other after signing a peace accord at Gorongosa National Park, about 170 kilometres from Beira, Mozambique, Thursday, Aug. 1, 2019.

Associated Press

flared sporadically in the 27 years since the civil war ended in 1992.

After signing the accord, Nyusi and Momade shook hands and embraced at the foot of Mount Gorongosa, where the rebels maintained their military headquarters. Some 800 of the disarming fighters were to live in a tented demobilization camp next to the wildlife park.

The accord is to be followed by another agreement to be signed Tuesday in Mozambique's capital, Maputo, pledging peaceful national elections in October. Previous elections have been marred by violence and Renamo allegations that the ruling Frelimo party rigged the results.

Renamo, which is the Portuguese acronym for National Resistance of Mozambique, fought the bloody civil war with backing from the white-minority regimes in South Africa and Rhodesia. When the war ended in

1992 it became an opposition party but never fully disarmed.

"This agreement has historic significance because up until now Mozambique has had an opposition party in parliament that also has armed fighters in the countryside. Now there can be peace," Neha Sanghrajka, a negotiator of the deal, told The Associated Press.

Unlike in previous peace efforts in Mozambique, she noted, the important issues have been implemented before the signing.

These include an amnesty for rebel fighters that Nyusi signed earlier this week and a constitutional amendment that stipulates provincial governors and other local officials will be elected rather than appointed by the central government.

Mozambique could be a model for other countries trying to resolve long-lasting rebel conflicts through negotiations, because of the example of implement-

ing key reforms before the actual signing, according to mediators. The agreement to end Colombia's rebel conflict, for example, faced several difficulties in implementation after it was signed.

"Here in Mozambique, there has been implementation of 90% of the issues before the actual signing," said negotiator Mirko Manzoni, the Swiss ambassador to Mozambique and the personal envoy of the U.N. secretary-general.

There is "tremendous symbolic value" in having the accord signed at Gorongosa, Manzoni added.

"Gorongosa was where the war started and now it is where it ends," he said, pointing out that the mountain is in a strategic location in the center of Mozambique. "This agreement gives people hope that there will be lasting peace." Several countries have supported the peace process, including the United States.

"This is an exciting time of positive transformation in Mozambique," said U.S. ambassador Dennis Hearne. "There is significant investment in the energy sector on the horizon. Now with this signing and the initiation of demobilization and disarmament process we are at the beginning of an important transformation of the country's politics which will be consolidated with the elections in October. It is a hopeful and exciting time."

Renamo's longtime leader Afonso Dhlakama died in Gorongosa in 2018. Momade succeeded him and is responsible for concluding the peace agreement.

"We will no longer commit the mistakes of the past," Momade said this week as Renamo fighters started turning in their arms. "We are for a humanized and dignified reintegration and we want the international community to help make that a reality."

Momade, who flew by helicopter from the rebels' mountaintop camp for the signing, also said he hoped Gorongosa Park would help Renamo's ex-combatants and their families re-enter society. After falling into neglect during the civil war, the park that sprawls over 4,067 square kilometers (1,570 square miles) has been re-invigorated with help from American philanthropist Greg Carr, who said he was inspired to take on the project after the late Nelson Mandela told him that wildlife parks should be places of national reconciliation and development.

The park has also helped surrounding communities recover after Cyclone Idai devastated large parts of central Mozambique in March, killing more than 600 people. □

In Brazil, tough-on-crime approach packs prisons

By DIANE JEANTET
Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Another burst of violence at an overcrowded Brazilian prison where dozens of inmates died has prompted promises of more prison cells and more guards, despite expert warnings that the strategy has been failing for decades.

A tough-on-crime vow last year helped Jair Bolsonaro win the presidency of Brazil, a nation plagued by gangs blamed for a string of mass-murder prison riots. No country has suffered more homicides in recent years and only two nations — the United States and China — have more people behind bars.

"Our concern and our priority are good people," Bolsonaro said on Twitter while campaigning last year. "I've always said it: I prefer a prison full of criminals than a cemetery full of innocents. If space is missing, we build more!"

On Monday, a gang at the Altamira prison in northern Brazil attacked rivals within the walls and setting fire to a temporary cell block. Officials say 58 people were decapitated or asphyxiated by the fire. Four others



A woman waits at the Institute of Legal Medicine for information about her relative who was one of the inmates killed during a riot at a prison in Altamira, Para state, Brazil, Thursday, Aug. 1, 2019. Associated Press

apparently were strangled by other inmates in the aftermath as prisoners were being transferred to supposedly safer lockups.

Relatives of the victims were gathered outside the Altamira morgue for a third day on Thursday in hopes of recovering remains for burial. The forensic institute said it had released only 27 bodies. The other 31 either need DNA testing for

full identification or families lacked required documentation to retrieve their bodies.

In response to the riot, state officials in Para pledged to build five new prison units to hold more than 2,000 inmates, and Gov. Helder Barbalho said over 1,000 new security agents will patrol prisons.

It's an echo of the response to previous eruptions of

prison violence.

"The truth is that Brazilian policymakers have long responded to the prison crisis by building more prisons, stiffening penalties," said Robert Muggah, co-founder of the Igarape think tank in Rio de Janeiro. "The paradox is that the filling of Brazilian jails is not only costly and ineffective, it is strengthening the hand of organized crime."

Reformers complain that the ill-controlled prisons essentially serve as schools for crime, forcing minor offenders into cooperation with murderous criminal cartels behind bars.

Brazil already has more than 720,000 individuals behind bars, according to official data from 2017. More recent independent estimates have the current incarcerated population at over 800,000 — more than triple the number in 2000.

The country has continued to build more prisons to try to keep up with its ever-growing incarcerated population. The national prison department recently announced that about 20,000 new cell spaces would be created by the end of the year. But it already faced a shortage of 302,758 cell spaces as of July 2017.

Para state's prisons are 8,600 inmates over capacity, so the government's vow to create 2,000 spots will only dent the problem. Overcrowding has left prison guards severely outnumbered, struggling to keep control of inmates, and has repeatedly blamed as a key factor in Brazil's recurring prison riots and massacres. □

Nicaraguan opposition slams government's no show at talks



In this Nov. 4, 2016 file photo, children swing in a park next to an election billboard promoting Nicaragua's President Daniel Ortega and running mate, his wife Rosario Murillo in Managua, Nicaragua.

Associated Press

By GABRIELA SELSER
Associated Press

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Nicaraguan opposition leaders returned to the negotiating table Wednesday

at a business center where talks on resolving the country's political crisis stalled months ago, but there was nobody there to talk to.

In what was apparently a bit of theater designed to call attention to the political stalemate that's over a year old — the government had given no signal that its delegates would respond to the unilateral call to restart talks — the Civic Alliance opposition group accused President Daniel Ortega's administration of intransigence.

"The government has killed the negotiation," said opposition politician José Pallais, who took part in the February-May negotiations after which more than 700 people the alliance considered political prisoners for their participation in anti-government protests were released.

Starting now, Pallais said, "the ability to re-establish

(dialogue) depends on diplomatic efforts by the Organization of American States," which in July gave both sides a period of 75 days. The Civic Alliance suspended the talks two months ago.

There was no immediate comment from Ortega's government.

In a statement released after waiting over an hour at the business center on the southern edge of the capital, Managua, the alliance said talks are urgently needed because "the political, social and economic crisis continues to deteriorate and the civic path is the one chosen by the Nicaraguan people."

The crisis erupted in April 2018 with protests that quickly broadened to de-

mand Ortega's exit from office. Government opponents accused him of concentrating power and governing with an authoritarian bent.

The demonstrations were met with a crackdown by security forces and armed, pro-government militias. At least 325 people were killed, more than 2,000 wounded, hundreds jailed and thousands fled to exile, according to rights monitors.

The opposition wants Ortega, 73, to negotiate electoral reform and early elections. The president has ruled out leaving office early and in his most recent appearance at a political event said his Sandinista movement "is ready to win" elections in 2021. □

LOCAL



Mosaic Workshops at Cosecha

ORANJESTAD — Cosecha is a retail gallery that displays Aruban crafts, design and heritage inspired products, all handmade by local craftspeople. The end of this month Cosecha will be presenting different creative workshops. With these workshops the gallery would like to bring more creative activities to the public. You are most welcome to join!

Iguana Mosaic Workshop

Don't you get excited when you see iguanas nearby? Join this workshop Friday August 30th during a monthly creative happy hour, where you will make a mosaic piece to honor these wonderful animals. The artisan Merveline will make sure you get all the knowledge and tools you need. From 5:00pm-8:00PM.


Glass Mosaic Plant Pot

Saturday August 31st is your chance to create a unique plant pot. Don't we all need an inspirational plant pot? This is the chance for you to decorate a plant pot with mosaic glass tiles. The artisan Judy will teach you how to use glass tiles but also nuggets for you to create your own design. See you in the Creative Center for another cool workshop. From 10:00am-12:00PM

Mandala Mug

Due to great demand, Cosecha and the artisan Natalia offer one more time the Mandala Mugs Workshop, a workshop developed by both parties. You can make the popular Mandala Mug or their latest design the Landscape Mug. Always wanted to have a Kwihi Tree Mug? Or a Red Anchor Mug? Or a Lighthouse Mug? Join in for another great workshop, while Cosecha keeps on developing together with you.

Mandala or Landscape Mug workshop. Participants will be able to decorate a mug with a mandala design or choose a landscape design like a kwihi tree, the red anchor or the lighthouse. From 2:00PM-5:00PM, also on Saturday August 31st.

For more information check out the Facebook page Aruba Cosecha. 




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Top 5 Vacation Illnesses

The most common reasons why patients walk into her clinic sound very familiar. Doctor Beke: "When on vacation you are excited so you mix meals, eat without control and combine this with more alcohol than usual resulting in an upset stomach. Digestion issues occur and when on a diet you can count on it that you will get sick." Throwing up, diarrhea, dehydration will be a bummer on your vacation. "Second occasion why people step in here is medication. They feel sick because they forgot to take their medicines with them or simply think they don't need it on holiday. But of course the body does not work differently only because you are in another place." This happens especially with patients of higher age and many times with blood pressure medication and psychological medicines, the doctor explains. "As we have the pharmacy next door we can solve this in most cases very quick so you will soon feel better again. Then of course we have the allergies, force majeure but still a hassle. Too much sun bathing is another thing causing dehydration and sun burns."

"I strongly advise to buy a new sunblock cream every vacation. Our pharmacy sells the most advanced ones that is environmental friendly, so not damaging the sea life." As fifth most common reason for patients to come see the doctor she mentions exhaustion. "You want to do everything in a short time and by the end of the day the body is exhausted, giving a reversed reaction. Take it easy please, moderate or like we say here: chill." Besides this top 5 the doctor is visited by patients with chronic diseases that often contact her in advance to travelling.

The Little Ones

With regards to children Dr. Beke advises parents to keep an extra eye on them during vacation. "They are excited, cannot hold control, play all day in the sand and pool and eat a lot of different things. But they are sensitive and you do not want your loved ones waking up in the middle of the night vomiting or with diarrhea." Asthmatic children should be taken care of extra as the sun, water and strong draft on the island can complicate their condition. "Protect the heads of your kids, we are close to the equator and the sun rays are more rectangular thus stronger. The heat and humidity can exhaust the little bodies easily. Let them play under an umbrella preferably and keep drinking water. At the pharmacy you can buy ear plugs to prevent ear infections." The doctor stresses that there is no doubt about drinking tap water. "The water of Aruba is the best. You can drink that without problems. It is excellent. In the States it is prepared with a lot of chemicals, but here it's clean."



Locals

Doctor Beke has a loyal local patient pool staying with her mainly because of the experience and trust. "They tell me I really listen to them, they feel attended and respected. A patient is a human being, not a casus, unfortunately many times doctors are skilled in the medical part but not on the social terrain." The latter is more and more important, especially with certain groups like teenage girls. "They prefer a female doctor to treat typical woman issues. The desire is attention and to feel at ease." Patients step in for second opinions too. "Everybody has the right to do that, it is their body and their money."

Pharmacy Convenience

After you pick up your prescription at Dr. Beke's practice, you can go to the Palm Beach Service Pharmacy, right next door. The collaboration between these two results in a quick, efficient and quality service. It's just what you need when you feel the only thing you want is healing. Lennert van der Poel, general manager of the pharmacy, which is part of a group of 5 pharmacies (Botica di Servicio), points out that convenience is not their only unique asset. "We carry a wide variety of medicines from the US, but most of the medicines come from the EU. The prices in the EU are considerably lower than in the U.S." All medicines are European registered with the same standard as U.S. products. "The law in the States allows visitors to get prescribed medicine by a local doctor for up to 6 months, saving them a ton of money.", says van der Poel. Most common medicines requested by visitors are antibiotic, pain killers and anti-allergy medications. However, certain things do not need prescription, such as contact lenses. These don't need a prescription to get them on the island. "We've recently started importing our own 'house brand' of contact lenses called 'Optinova', and the feedback has been amazing", elaborates Van der Poel, "We carry both daily and monthly lenses, which are an ideal substitute if you forget yours when coming on vacation, or even if you would like to take some home, which is why we've seen so many return customers."

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EAGLE BEACH — Recently, the Aruba Tourism Authority representative Marouska Heyliger had the great pleasure in honoring many loyal Aruba visitors with their distinctive certificates. These certificates are a way to say "Masha Danki" for continuously choosing Aruba as a favorite vacation destination. The titles are as following: 10+ years "Distinguished Visitor" and 20+ years "Goodwill Ambassador".

Honored as Distinguished Visitors were **Lawrence and Michelle Crosby** from Massachusetts.

Ronald and Linda Solimini from Massachusetts also received the honoring of Goodwill Ambassadors.

The family loves coming to the island for years for its friendly people, beautiful beaches, great weather and family time. ☐



Rage Silver Aruba: Dazzling Jewelry from Europe



ORANJESTAD — There is a hip place in Aruba you must visit before returning home. Reason: here you get bang for the buck, trendy and unique jewelry that is rare to find in the USA and something for everyone as in men's, women's and children's bling bling. Rage Silver is run by Marny de l' Isle who handpicks every single item you find in the stores of Rage Silver herself. Passion, passion, passion is what this store breathes and we guarantee you will fall in love with this gem.

Rage Silver has two stores: one at the Renaissance Marketplace downtown and one at the Palm Beach Plaza Mall. The first was opened 21 years ago with Marny's intention to sell great price point jewelry with a unique collection mainly from Europe. Her trustworthy name and always surprising collections made her successful through all those years. "The core items are from the Rage house brand Collection and next to that I selected some really great and out-of-the-box brands. Trendy, hip and affordable. We offer awesome gift ideas for e.g. graduations, birthdays, and souvenirs or just for yourself." The store is actually really cool and you can find pendants, earrings, rings, necklaces, watches and much more.

Lovely Lines

Ti Sento is all about Italian flair. The brand is actually from Holland, but totally Italian inspired. The items are Sterling Silver and unexpected, mingled, stacked together and layered. It is her style - her choice, is what the brand expresses. "Ti Sento used to sell high end jewelry and diamonds meaning their expertise is excellent and the quality high end, but the prices very affordable. Their stackable rings, cute little earrings with changeable charms and layered bracelets are just some of the trendy options they have. When you buy this, it will be a hit for a fact." From Italy we go to Indonesia to the brand Buddha to Buddha. Marny: "Also a brand from Holland, but hand made in Indonesia in Sterling Silver and inspired by spiritual vibes. Very cool,



bulky fashionable items that make a statement." Both Tisento and Buddha to Buddha are only available at the Renaissance Marketplace store. Uno de 50 is from Spain and an instant success brand. She sells it in both stores and people cannot get enough of it. "This is fashion, identity, self-expression", says Marny. "It is a brand that rocks with chunky pieces of thick silver-plated design items and combined with leather and colored stones. Initially they only made fifty of each item, explaining the name of the brand." By the way, rage Silver wraps the gifts in an impressive manner. You feel blessed already by seeing the wrap!

Women, Men & Youngsters

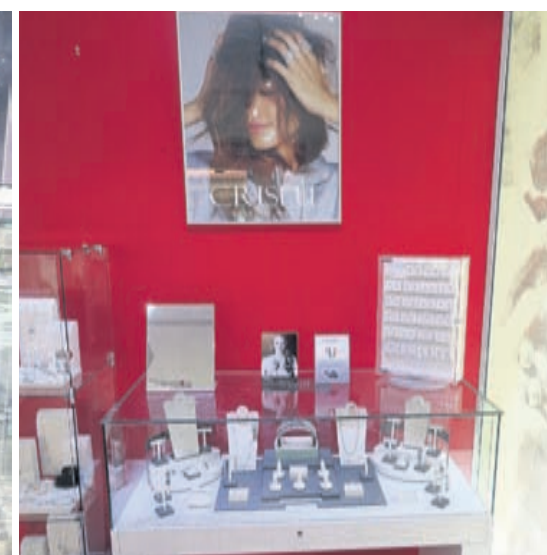
In the Renaissance marketplace store, almost half of the 100 square meter is actually men's collection, worth stepping inside to check it out. Also for children from five and up Rage Silver has a terrific offering that expresses their being. For everyone there is a pick and the experienced employees will help you find your desire. "The clientele is very broad, from children to 65+ we have them buying. Renaissance Marketplace tends to attract a younger crowd due to more non-brands and casual jewelry while Palm Beach Plaza offers upscale brands as well", Marny explains.

Love Story

The start of the store is actually a love story. "On a business trip for my job at that time I spent a few hours in Puerto Rico where I bought this silver bracelet for my now husband. It had little 'kokopellies' on it and it was the perfect gift for him as he was a wake boarder, now kite surfer, beach boy type. His friends were so enthusiastic about it that he told me: "Why don't we start a silver shop." With a little budget she started off selling rings of Mexican silver from the house and slowly expanded. Eventually they opened the first store together in downtown Oranjestad. "Today we got as far as two stores, one at Renaissance Marketplace and one at Palm Beach Plaza. We have a loyal local clientele as well as repeated visitors buying their favorite jewelry here." □



Renaissance Marketplace
Monday - Saturday 9.30 am - 8 pm
Telephone +297-2806226
ragejewelry@gmail.com



Palm Beach Plaza Mall
Monday - Saturday 10 am - 10 pm
Sundays 5 pm - 10 pm
Telephone +297-5861244
ragejewelry@gmail.com

SPORTS



Lexi Thompson of the US after putting on the 16th green on day one of the AIG Women's British Open at Woburn Golf Club, Little Brickhill, England, Thursday Aug. 1, 2019.

Associated Press

Buhai leads by 1 over Kang, Shibuno at Women's British Open

MILTON KEYNES, England (AP) — Ashleigh Buhai of South Africa shot a 7-under 65 to take a one-stroke lead in the first round of the Women's British Open on Thursday.

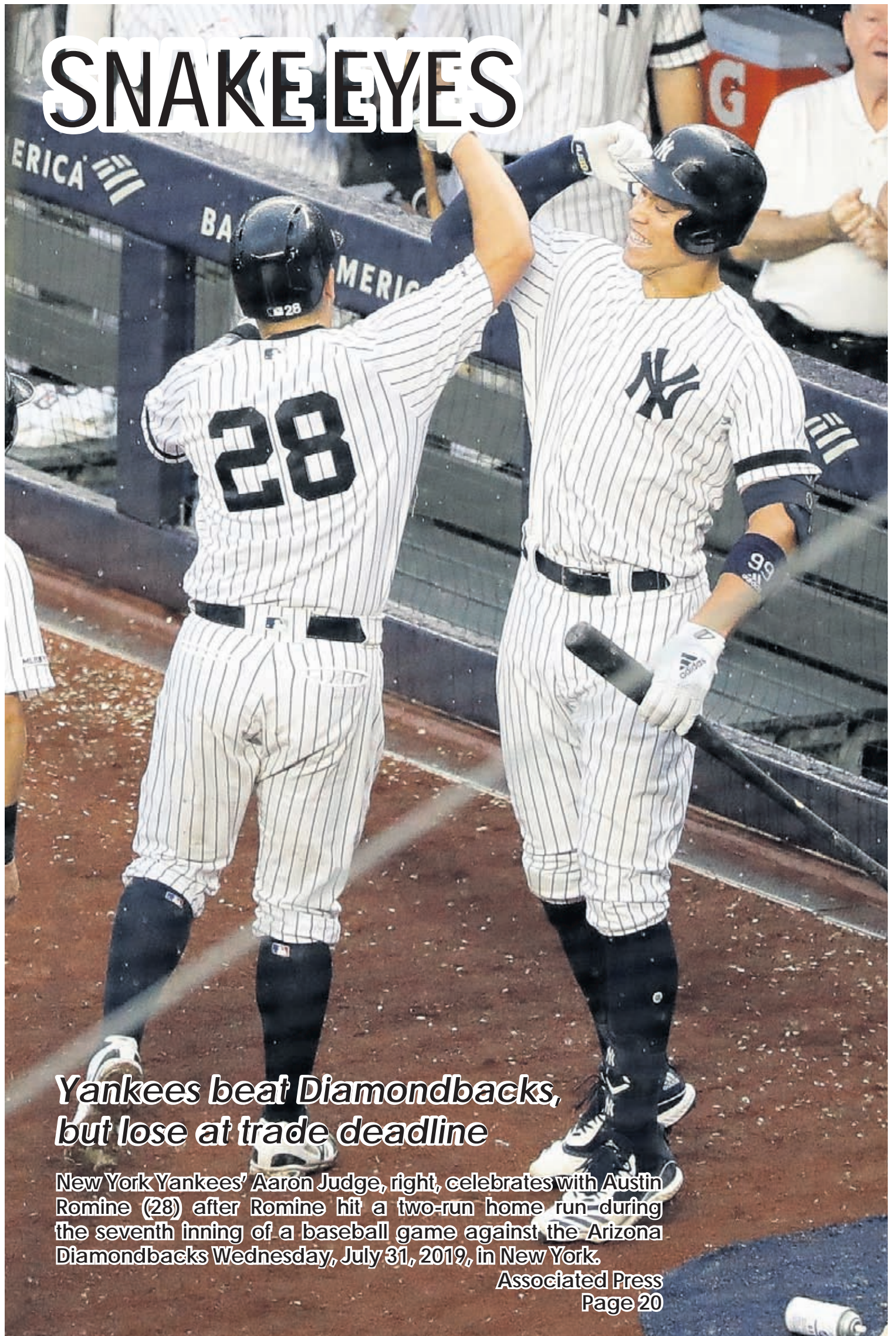
Buhai finished just ahead of Japan's Hinako Shibuno and American Danielle Kang, who each had a bogey in rounds of 66.

"In my last few tournaments I've had three good rounds and one not so good round, so I'm hoping this is the week I can do four good rounds," said Buhai, whose best finish this year is a tie for 11th. "The last few weeks I have been just trying to stay mellow and keep everything in check, and it seems to be helping."

Top-ranked Jin Young Ko, seeking her third major title of the year after winning last week's Evian Championship in France, was well positioned after a 68.

Continued on Page 18

SNAKE EYES



Yankees beat Diamondbacks, but lose at trade deadline

New York Yankees' Aaron Judge, right, celebrates with Austin Romine (28) after Romine hit a two-run home run during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the Arizona Diamondbacks Wednesday, July 31, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press
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Allyson Felix competes for medals, campaigns for motherhood

By PAT GRAHAM
AP Sports Writer

About a month after her daughter's emergency delivery, sprinter Allyson Felix went through one of her toughest workouts — a 30-minute walk.

It was then the six-time Olympic gold medalist realized just how difficult the road ahead would be in her return to track. It was also when she became even more determined to line up for another sort of race: Campaigning for greater maternity protection from sponsors.

She along with other track moms spoke up. Their voices are starting to be heard. Case in point: Felix agreed to a sponsorship deal Wednesday with the women's apparel company Athleta that offers maternity safeguards and guarantees.

"I totally want to be remembered for having some impact on the sport, having changed things for women of the next generation to not have to feel like they have to choose between a career and motherhood," Felix said in a phone interview. "If I could walk away from the sport with some of



In this July 27, 2019, file photo, Allyson Felix holds her daughter Camryn after running the women's 400-meter dash final at the U.S. Championships athletics meet in Des Moines, Iowa.

Associated Press

these issues looking a little different, that's a win for me."

Felix was only 32 weeks into her pregnancy when her daughter, Camryn, was delivered on Nov. 28 via emergency C-section after tests showed the baby's heart rate had dropped to dangerous levels. Camryn weighed in at 3 pounds, 7 ounces.

At the time, Felix was with-

out a contract. She'd been trying to renew her deal with Nike since it ran out in December 2017. She wanted to start a family in '18 but was worried about the ramifications.

The 33-year-old Felix explained her situation in a New York Times editorial piece on May 22: Nike wanted to pay her 70% less. Although she was willing to accept a reduction, she

wanted assurances around maternity. It was declined. Alysia Montano and Kara Goucher also spoke out about the need for sponsors to support female competitors before, during and after pregnancy — that contracts shouldn't penalize someone for starting a family.

In a May 17 statement, Nike wrote: "Last year we standardized our approach

across all sports to support our female athletes during pregnancy, but we recognize we can go even further. ... We recognize we can do more and that there is an important opportunity for the sports industry to evolve to support female athletes."

For Felix, taking an initial stand was daunting. She didn't know if there would be repercussions.

"I just felt compelled," she said. "I think it was becoming a mother and knowing that this is a world that my daughter will grow up in and even though it's uncomfortable and it's still scary, sometimes you just have to talk about your experiences. When I did I was just overwhelmed with the stories that women shared with me. It just reinforced that it was the right thing to do." "When you're supported in that way, you are now a better athlete, you're a better mother and you're a better person," said Felix, who's still working on obtaining a shoe contract. "It's already hard enough to be a new mother. It's extremely difficult to be an athlete. It's so much better this way." □

Women's British Open

Continued from Page 17

"I'm not tired yet," Ko said. "I will do my best for this week, and then I had just great playing today, so I'm just happy."

Buhai, who has never won on the LPGA Tour, made her only bogey on the par-5 11th but responded with three straight birdies on Nos. 14-16. Her best previous British Open finish was a tie for 30th in 2017.

"I had a bit of a wobble in the middle of my round, and to finish with three birdies and come in strong — I had a goal when I saw the lead was 6 to get to 7, so I holed like a 30-footer on the 16th hole and that got me to 7," she said.

Playing on her home Marquess Course at Woburn Golf Club, Charley Hull delighted fans with a bogey-

free 67. Hull, who suffered from food poisoning at last week's Evian Championship, showed no lingering ill effects.

"Sometimes it's harder when it's your home golf course because you know where not to hit it as well as where to hit it," Hull said. "Like today, for instance, the 13th hole, it's the first time I've hit that fairway for about three years, so I was quite happy about it."

Kang, who won the Women's PGA Championship two years ago for her only major, missed the cut last week at the Evian Championship, allowing her to arrive early for the second of back-to-back majors.

"There might have been a little bit of a blessing in disguise that I missed the cut last week because I came here on Saturday actu-

ally and I got a lot of rest, I played a few rounds," Kang said. "I like being prepared in a proper way and competing in a proper way." Joining Hull at 5 under were second-ranked Sung Hyun Park, Moriya Jutanugarn and Megan Khang.

U.S. Women's Open champion Jeongeun Lee6 and Ariya Jutanugarn shot 68 along with Ko. Defending champion Georgia Hall opened with a 69.

"I think it's important for me to take all the emotions in and really enjoy it. I loved it out there today," Hall said. "I just loved having so much support."

Lexi Thompson, whose wayward passport after the Evian Championship caused a delay for a van carrying golf bags for nearly 40 players to Woburn, opened with a 71. □



South Korea's Park Sung-hyun plays off the 12th tee on day one of the AIG Women's British Open at Woburn Golf Club, Little Brickhill, England, Thursday Aug. 1, 2019.

Associated Press

An, Im share lead at 62 after 1st round of Wyndham

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) — Byeong Hun An and Sung-jae Im each shot 8-under 62 on Thursday to share the lead after one round at the Wyndham Championship. Mackenzie Hughes, Rory Sabbatini, Patrick Rodgers and Johnson Wagner were a stroke back behind the South Korean leaders in the final PGA Tour event before the FedEx Cup playoffs. Former Wyndham winners Brandt Snedeker and Webb Simpson joined Jordan Spieth among the nine players at 64. The co-leaders shot the best rounds of their PGA Tour careers. An, a 27-year-old South Korean seeking his first career victory on tour, closed with birdies on four of his final six holes and a sand save on the par-4 18th.

An had four birdies on the front nine at Sedgefield Country Club along with those four on the back nine during his bogey-free round. He hit 15 greens in regulation.

"I've got to do a couple more of these rounds," An said. "One good round won't do it, so I need to keep it up and make a lot of birdies."

Im, one of nine players in the field with a chance at finishing in the top 10 on the points list and earning some bonus money as part of the new Wyndham Rewards Top 10 program, had three straight birdies on Nos. 14-16 and also was bogey-free. He started at No. 25 on the points list.

For a while, it looked as though Spieth would join them atop the leaderboard — teeing off on No. 18 one stroke behind the leaders, but he sent his drive out of bounds. After taking the penalty stroke, he placed his fourth stroke 21 feet from the flagstick and rolled in that putt for arguably the best bogey of the day. "I got up there and had a putt at it, I was just trying to get the right speed," Spieth said. "And 5 feet to go, it looked really good, just like they did

all day." Spieth had just 23 putts during his round.

"You want putts for birdie. You want to be hitting greens in regulation," Spieth said. "Really, two bad swings today kept it from being my lowest round on the PGA Tour. There's a lot of good in that."

At No. 67 on the points list, Spieth — the 2015 FedEx Cup champion — is in no danger of missing the post-season. Others at Sedgefield aren't so secure.

The top 125 qualify for The Northern Trust next week at Liberty National, and are assured of keeping their tour cards for next season, if they don't already have them. Garnett, who started

at No. 121 on the points list, and Power, who is No. 144, are among those who are squarely on the playoff bubble. "I know if it doesn't go well where I'm going," said Josh Teater, who is No. 165. "So I kind of made that up ... in my mind a few weeks back that, hey, if I make all three cuts and finish 40th, it makes no difference, so let's go try to play great and if we end up playing terrible, it doesn't matter."

The other main subplot at Sedgefield is the chase for the top 10 and the remaining \$5.3 million in bonus money that is still up for grabs. The top three spots have been locked up. □



Byeong Hun An, of South Korea, hits from a sand trap on the 18th hole during the first round of the Wyndham Championship golf tournament in Greensboro, N.C., Thursday, Aug. 1, 2019.

Associated Press

\$10 Match Play

DOUBLE YOUR WIN | Redeem only at Blackjack Tables.

Please note: Limit one per person, per day. Must be 18 years or older. Coupon is valid for tourist and locals and is not redeemable for cash. Not valid with any other promotion. Management reserves the right to change promotion without notice.

Orchid Casino
Located at Riu Antillas as formerly The Westin Resort.

\$10 Slot Play

DOUBLE YOUR WIN | Redeem at Hostess Desk.

Please note: Receive \$10 FREE Slot Play when you sign up and become a VIP Player's Club Member. Limit one per person. Must be 18 years or older. Photo ID required upon redemption of this coupon. Coupon is not redeemable for cash. Management reserves the right to change promotion without notice.

Orchid Casino
Located at Riu Antillas as formerly The Westin Resort.

\$20 Extra Bonus

Valid once per night

Poker Room

Please note: Buy in for \$200 or more & receive extra \$20 bonus, one hour minimum play.

Orchid Casino
Located at Riu Antillas as formerly The Westin Resort.

Yanks stand pat at deadline, beat Diamondbacks 7-5

NEW YORK (AP) — Austin Romine hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the seventh inning and New York beat Arizona while the Diamondbacks completed a deal to send ace Zack Greinke to Houston.

The Yankees had been shopping for pitching and may have eyed Greinke ahead of the 4 p.m. trade deadline. The veteran right-hander gave them an impressive firsthand look, striking out seven and pitching five innings of two-run ball. He was in line for the win before Romine's shot off Yoshihisa Hirano (3-5).

Instead, the 35-year-old Greinke is off to Houston, where he'll play for a rival AL pennant contender. The Diamondbacks got a quartet of prospects in return.

Adam Ottavino (4-3) got the win with a scoreless inning.

INDIANS 10, ASTROS 4

CLEVELAND (AP) — Roberto Pérez homered twice, Carlos Santana and Jason Kipnis each hit a three-run shot and Cleveland capped a power-packed day with a win over Houston.

Perez hit a three-run homer in the second inning off rookie José Urquidy (1-1) and a solo shot in the sixth as the Indians stayed on Minnesota's heels in the AL Central.

Santana connected for his 23rd homer in the fifth and Kipnis hit his ninth in the sixth.

Rookie right-hander Zach Plesac (6-3) recovered after a rough start and won his third start in a row.

The Indians' homer barrage came a few hours after the team acquired slugers Yasiel Puig and Framil Reyes in a three-team trade that sent starter Trevor Bauer to Cincinnati.

The Astros pulled off the biggest deadline deal, acquiring right-hander Zack



New York Yankees third baseman Gio Urshela reacts after getting hurt during the fifth inning of a baseball game against the Arizona Diamondbacks Wednesday, July 31, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press

Greinke from the Arizona Diamondbacks for four prospects.

RANGERS 9, MARINERS 7

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — All-Star lefty Mike Minor won for the first time in more than a month, Shin-Soo Choo hit a solo homer and Texas beat Seattle.

Minor trailed 5-3 when he left after the top of the fifth, but Willie Calhoun's three-run homer in the bottom of the inning put the Rangers in front before they went to the bullpen.

Austin Nola and Keon Broxton homered for the Mariners, who saw the end of a six-game winning streak that had matched their longest of the season.

Minor (9-6) needed 103 pitches to get through five innings. He had five strikeouts while matching a season high in allowing 11 baserunners (seven hits, three walks and a hit batter).

Jesse Chavez, the fourth Texas reliever, worked the ninth for his first save this season.

Wade LeBlanc (6-4) was gone after 4 1/3 innings.

BLUE JAYS 4, ROYALS 1

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Freddy Galvis and rookie Bo Bichette hit solo home runs as Toronto completed a three-game sweep over Kansas City.

Bichette hit his first career homer to open the eighth against Royals starter Jakob Junis. Galvis cleared the center field wall with his 16th to open the seventh.

Cavan Biggio followed Bichette's homer with a double, chasing Junis (6-10). Reliever Kevin McCarthy surrendered a run-scoring double to Teoscar Hernández.

Rookie Jacob Waguespack (2-1) went six innings for his second win in his fourth big-league start. He held the Royals to three hits and one run.

RAYS 8, RED SOX 5

BOSTON (AP) — Kevin Kiermaier homered on the first pitch he saw after coming off the injured list, and Austin Meadows hit a three-run shot to lead Tampa Bay over Boston.

The Rays jumped to a 5-0 lead against Boston starter

Rick Porcello (9-8). He allowed six runs on nine hits and one walk, striking out seven in 5 2/3 innings.

Willy Adames also homered for Tampa Bay, which won for the fifth time in six games since losing seven of eight to fall behind Boston in the wild-card race.

Michael Chavis homered for Boston. J.D. Martinez had three hits, including his 23rd homer of the season, and Mookie Betts also had three hits.

Ryan Yarbrough (10-3) went 4 1/3 innings for the win, allowing four runs and six hits with three strikeouts. Chaz Roe earned his first save.

TIGERS 9, ANGELS 1

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Jake Rogers, Brandon Dixon and Gordon Beckham went deep, Daniel Norris picked up his first win since May 12 and Detroit swept the three-game series.

Rogers opened the scoring in the third with his first big league homer.

Dixon and Beckham homered during a five-run eighth inning off Luis García. Dixon — who ended up with four RBIs — had a two-run blast to left-center and Beckham's was a three-run shot to right center.

Norris (3-8) allowed only three hits over five innings with five strikeouts.

American League home run leader Mike Trout sup-

plied the Angels' lone run with a solo shot in the sixth. Suarez (2-2) didn't allow a hit the first two innings then surrendered four runs on four hits over 4 1/3 innings.

METS 4, WHITE SOX 2

CHICAGO (AP) — Todd Frazier hit a tiebreaking single in the ninth inning, Michael Conforto added a two-run single and New York beat Chicago for its season-best sixth straight victory.

Mets ace Jacob deGrom struck out 11 in a tight pitching duel with Lucas Giolito. Both 2019 All-Stars allowed just one run in seven innings.

Justin Wilson (2-1) pitched out of a bases-loaded jam in the eighth to get the win. Díaz gave up a solo homer to Leury García but got three outs for his 24th save in 29 chances.

White Sox closer Alex Colomé (3-2) took the loss. Chicago has dropped seven of eight.

BREWERS 4, ATHLETICS 2

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Lorenzo Cain hit a leadoff homer and Jordan Lyles pitched well in his return to the Milwaukee Brewers, earning a win over Oakland.

Christian Yelich added an RBI double to extend his hitting streak to 18 games, matching a career high. Orlando Arcia singled twice and scored.

Hours after completing a pair of trades that sent slumping slugger Jesús Aguilar to Tampa Bay and added lefty Drew Pomeranz to Milwaukee's bullpen, the Brewers grabbed an early lead against A's starter Brett Anderson and held on behind Lyles and four relievers.

Acquired from Pittsburgh on Monday, Lyles (6-7) tossed three-hit ball over five innings and retired nine of his final 10 batters to win for the first time since May 23. The right-hander was a reliever for the NL Central champion Brewers late last year.

Matt Albers, Jeremy Jeffress and Junior Guerra each pitched a scoreless inning. Josh Hader earned his 24th save. Anderson (9-7) allowed three runs in seven innings. □



Donaldson homers in 10th, lifts Braves over Nationals 5-4

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Josh Donaldson homered against Sean Doolittle in the top of the 10th, and the Atlanta Braves pulled out a 5-4 victory over the Washington Nationals on Wednesday to take two of three in the series and pad their NL East lead to 6 1/2 games.

After the Nationals scored twice in the bottom of the ninth to tie the game, Donaldson swatted a fast-ball from Doolittle over the center-field wall for his 25th homer of the season.

Adam Duvall homered for the fourth time in five games. Ronald Acuña Jr., Ozzie Albies and Tyler Flowers also drove in runs for the Braves, who won consecutive series in Washington for the first time since 2013. They also won two of three in late June.

Atlanta got another quality road start from Mike Soroka (10-2), who pitched seven innings and allowed just three hits, including a lead-off homer to Juan Soto in the second.

Washington starter Aníbal Sánchez (6-6) could not keep pace, allowing four runs on 10 hits in five innings of work.

REDS 4, PIRATES 1

CINCINNATI (AP) — Clint Hurdle and David Bell had little interaction while exchanging lineup cards one day after their teams fought on the field, and the two teams were on good behavior during Cincinnati's victory over Pittsburgh behind a strong outing from Luis Castillo.

Bell and three Reds, including now-traded Yasiel Puig, were ejected for a ninth-inning brawl during the Pirates' 11-4 win on Tuesday night. Four Pirates also were ejected. Major League Baseball was reviewing video of the fight Wednesday and was expected to hand down suspensions over the second fracas between the NL Central rivals this

season.

Bell went after Hurdle during the fight and was restrained in a headlock by batting coach Rick Eckstein. Bell repeatedly cursed Hurdle as he left the field. A day later, the two managers didn't say much while handing lineup cards to the umpires.

Castillo (10-4) gave up six hits and a run over seven innings. Jesse Winker and Eugenio Suarez homered off rookie Dario Agrazal (2-2), who lasted only 3 2/3 innings.

The two teams aren't done with each other. They meet again at PNC Park on Aug. 23, and wrap up the season in Pittsburgh Sept. 27-29.

CUBS 2, CARDINALS 0

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Kyle Hendricks struck out seven in seven innings and Ian Happ hit an RBI single in the sixth inning to break a scoreless tie as Chicago beat St. Louis and moved into a tie with the Cardinals atop the NL Central.

The teams have identical 57-50 records. The Cardinals have lost three of their last four.

Hendricks (8-8) allowed seven hits and didn't walk a batter in a 104-pitch effort. Closer Craig Kimbrel picked his eighth save in 10 chances.

Happ, who was recalled from Triple-A Des Moines on Friday, singled off Miles Mikolas (7-11) and scored Kris Bryant, who had reached on a one-out error by third baseman Tommy Edman. Chicago scored an unearned run in the eighth inning.

DODGERS 5, ROCKIES 1

DENVER (AP) — Will Smith hit a three-run home run in the ninth inning to break open a scoreless game and lead Los Angeles over Colorado. Kristopher Negrón also went deep during the rally and Alex Verdugo had four hits. Joe Kelly (5-3) pitched the eighth inning to earn the win.

Rockies starter German



Atlanta Braves' Josh Donaldson, left, rounds the bases past Washington Nationals first baseman Gerardo Parra after hitting a solo home run in the 10th inning of a baseball game, Wednesday, July 31, 2019, in Washington. Atlanta won 5-4 in 10 innings.

Associated Press

Márquez was helped off the field at the start of the seventh inning with what the team said was full-body cramping. The right-hander fanned 10 through six innings.

The Rockies lost because of a bad ninth inning. Closer Wade Davis (1-5) walked Cody Bellinger and gave up a single to Corey Seager with one out.

Smith followed with a homer to center, his fifth of the season. Verdugo then singled and Negrón homered for the second straight game.

TWINS 7, MARLINS 4

MIAMI (AP) — Jose Berrios struck out a season-high 11 in seven innings and Minnesota hit three homers in a win over Miami.

Max Kepler hit his 29th homer of the season, Mitch

Garver added a three-run shot and Eddie Rosario had a two-run home run as the Twins won for the fifth time in six games.

Berrios (10-5) retired the first 12 batters he faced, including six on strikeouts, before Neil Walker led off the fifth inning with a dribbler down the third-base line. Starlin Castro followed with a base hit to center.

Miami's Brian Anderson hit a grand slam in the ninth inning for the Marlins. Marlins starter Sandy Alcantara (4-10) allowed seven runs in 4 2/3 innings.

GIANTS 5, PHILLIES 1

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Jeff Samardzija tossed three-hit ball over six scoreless innings, Buster Posey, Pablo Sandoval and Kevin Pillar homered in a five-run fifth and short-handed San

Francisco beat Philadelphia.

The Giants were down three relievers after a flurry of moves before the trade deadline, but Samardzija (8-8) handcuffed Philadelphia for his fifth straight road win.

Vince Velasquez (3-6) took a three-hitter into the sixth before walking Mike Yastrzemski. Posey then ripped a 2-1 fastball out to left field for only his sixth homer in 273 at-bats this season.

Adam Morgan replaced Velasquez, and Sandoval went deep to right for his 14th homer. Brandon Crawford followed with a single and then Pillar connected, sending his 13th homer out to left.

The Phillies only managed one run on Adam Haseley's RBI groundout. □

Looking for starters at Hall of Fame Game? Try the O-lines

By **BARRY WILNER**

AP Pro Football Writer

CANTON, Ohio (AP) — It's the first preseason NFL game, which means most starters get to visit the Pro Football Hall of Fame, then watch the youngsters go at it. So if you're looking for any likely regulars on the field Thursday night for the Falcons and Broncos, focus on the offensive lines.

Denver's new coach, Vic Fangio, will start three O-linemen who could be in the opening day lineup: left tackle Garrett Bolles, rookie left guard Dalton Risner and center Connor McGovern. All need work on cohesion, a must for any blocking unit, but particularly when the quarterback is more stationary than most. That's what the Broncos have in veteran Joe Flacco, acquired from Baltimore.

Flacco won't play against Atlanta.

McGovern's low snaps out of the shotgun have been a problem this summer, just as they were last season when he took over for an injured Matt Paradis, who left in free agency in the offseason.

Offensive coordinator Rich Scangarello hopes the blockers get tested.

"Yeah, let's see who can block a good pass rusher without chipping them,"



In this May 10, 2019, file photo, Atlanta Falcons first round pick offensive lineman Chris Lindstrom, right, and Kaleb McGary listen during NFL football rookie camp in Flowery Branch, Ga.

Associated Press

Fangio said. "Even though they've got the box loaded, let's see if we can run the ball up the middle."

Atlanta's front line battles have first-round picks Chris Lindstrom and Kaleb McGary competing for starting jobs at right guard and right tackle, respectively. Lindstrom was listed as the starter on the team's first depth chart, while McGary is behind veteran Ty Sambrailo.

The Falcons have the

weapons to be dynamic on offense, but not if Matt Ryan (who also will sit Thursday night) doesn't get protection and Devonta Freeman doesn't have room to run.

One of the all-time greats among offensive linemen will be on hand: Mike Munchak. Fangio said one thing he was looking forward to was seeing the OL coach's bronze bust in the Hall of Fame.

"I'm sure Munch will be

there charging a fee to take a picture with the guys with his bust," Fangio said. "I'm going to try to get a picture with Mike standing next to his bust. That will be cool." Here are some other noteworthy themes for the game two days before former Falcons tight end Tony Gonzalez, former Broncos defensive back Champ Bailey and the team's late owner, Pat Bowlen, are inducted into the hall. Also entering are Ed Reed, Kevin

Mawae, Ty Law, Gil Brandt and Johnny Robinson.

NO JULIO

Falcons wide receiver Julio Jones already has said he won't play in any preseason games. He skipped all preseason games last season before leading the NFL with 1,688 yards receiving. Jones said he'll be coaching young receivers and is especially interested in seeing Christian Blake, who he said has been "phenomenal catching the ball down the field."

Blake spent last season learning from the likes of Jones and Mohamed Sanu while on the practice squad, and he is having a strong camp.

FANGIO'S PHILOSOPHY

The veteran defensive coordinator now in his first job as a head coach doesn't want to use a lot of stuff in the preseason, preferring to test his young players and see what they've got. He said he wants to put his players in difficult situations "just to see who can handle it."

"For instance, if I'm pretty confident they might be throwing it, instead of giving a corner some help, we'll see if he can cover his guy. Play a light box even though we think they might be running it, things like that," Fangio said. □



Jacksonville Jaguars linebacker Quincy Williams (56) loses his helmet as he tackles running back Ryquell Armstead, left, during an NFL football practice at the team's training facility, Thursday, Aug. 1, 2019, in Jacksonville, Fla.

Associated Press

Jaguars rookie LB Williams out 4-6 weeks with knee injury

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Jacksonville Jaguars rookie linebacker Quincy Williams, a third-round draft pick who showed enough over the last three months to lock down a starting spot, will miss 4-to-6 weeks because of a torn meniscus in his right knee.

The older brother of New York Jets rookie Quinnen Williams tweaked his knee during drills Thursday and left practice early.

The team says he will have arthroscopic surgery in the coming days. He still has an outside shot at returning in time for the Sept. 8 season opener against Kansas City. "Our expectation is that

he'll be ready for the first game," coach Doug Marrone said during his weekly radio show Thursday.

The Jags selected the 5-foot-10 linebacker from Murray State with the 98th overall selection, a pick that was widely questioned. But Williams has been the team's best rookie by far. Marrone raised eyebrows — even in the locker room — earlier this week by calling him the fastest player on the field.

Now Jacksonville will hope for a speedy return.

In the meantime, veteran Ramik Wilson likely will replace Williams at weak-side linebacker — the position

filled by Telvin Smith the last five seasons. Smith stepped away from football in May to "get my world in order." Rookie tight end Josh Oliver also got hurt Thursday, injuring his right hamstring during practice. Marrone said Oliver, a third-round pick from San Jose State, will have in-depth tests Friday to determine the extent of the damage.

The Jaguars claimed tight end Donnie Ernsberger off waivers from Tampa Bay and waived/injured rookie tight end Michael Colubiale (concussion protocol). Colubiale will revert to Jacksonville's injured reserve if he clears waivers. □

Garber's 20 years as MLS commissioner time of huge growth

By RONALD BLUM
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Don Garber keeps a fireman's hat in his office.

"When you're running a business like this, you are a fireman. You're putting out fires every day," he said.

Garber's 20th anniversary as Major League Soccer's commissioner is Sunday, and the league's challenge these days is growth, an upward trajectory that will be boosted when the U.S. co-hosts the World Cup in 2026.

He was senior vice president of the NFL's international division when he was hired in 1999 to replace Doug Logan, who had run the league since its launch in 1996. MLS has doubled in size to 24 teams under Garber's leadership, plays primarily in soccer specific stadiums and maintains an average attendance among the top 10 soccer leagues in the world.

Yet, it has not caught up with the NBA or NHL for television attention and averages fewer viewers on U.S. English-language television than the Premier League, despite more favorable time slots.

"When I hear stuff from my bosses at ESPN saying we're not going to show that game because we can make more money putting a 5-year-old rerun of the World Series of Poker on,

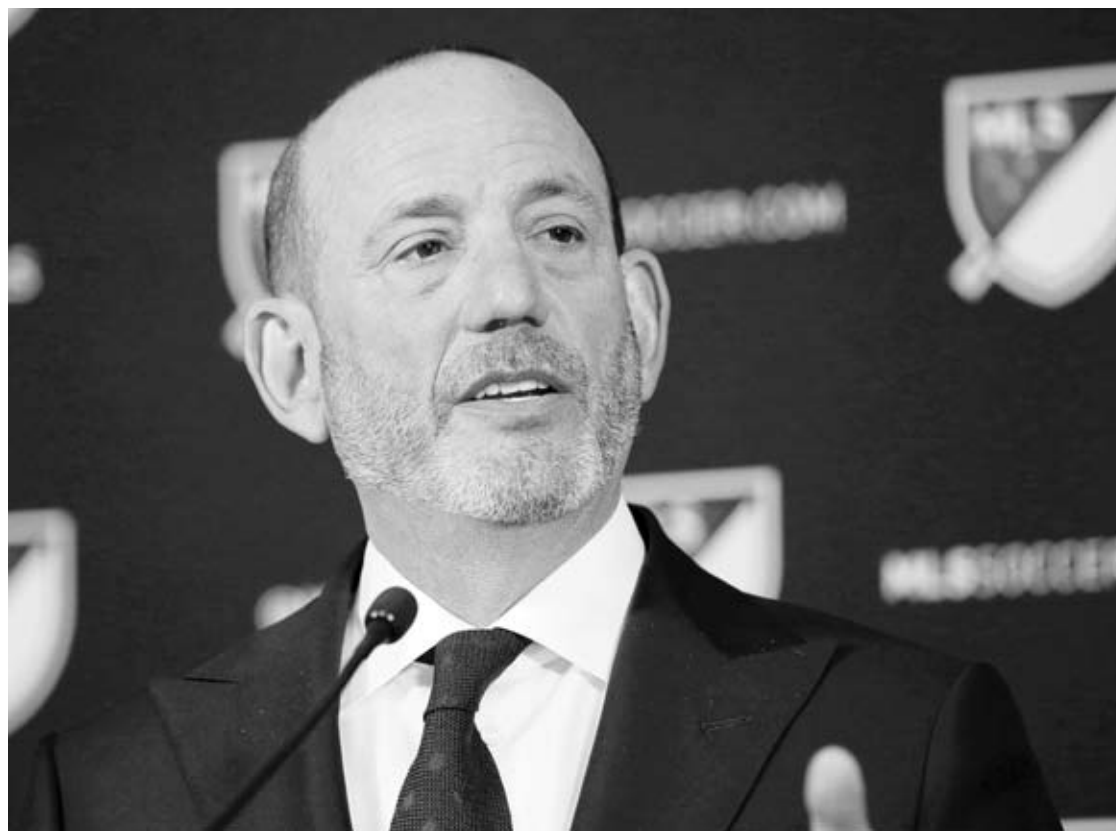
then we got a big problem," said former U.S. goalkeeper Kasey Keller, an ESPN analyst.

Now 61, Garber recalls being approached about MLS at an NFL owners meeting or a Super Bowl by Robert Kraft and Jonathan Kraft, owners of the New England Patriots and New England Revolution.

Having launched with 10 teams in 1996, the league jumped to 12 in 1999. But average attendance had dropped from 17,000 to 14,000.

"I could remember like it was yesterday the opening press conference in New York and the reaction, much of it negative, to me taking the job," Garber recalled. "I expected when I took the job that the soccer community would be excited about a young, experienced sports marketing executive coming over and taking over this fledgling soccer league. I realized quickly that soccer is a unique sport and it took a while to really earn the credibility and the respect of all the constituents. I remember walking home from that press conference and saying, oh my goodness, what did I get myself into?"

Garber pushed owners to get rid of Americanizations such as keeping time on scoreboards and breaking ties with shootouts in



In this April 18, 2019 file photo Major League Soccer Commissioner Don Garber speaks at a news conference in Los Angeles.

which players dribbled at goal from 35 yards. Garber pushed owners to cut Miami and Tampa Bay ahead of the 2000 season for a period of consolidation. MLS had three owners for 10 teams for much of 2003; Phil Anschutz's Anschutz Entertainment Group operated up to six teams at one point.

Twenty-five owners have entered the league since Garber became commissioner, and no owner has had an investment in more than one team since 2015. Expansion started in 2005

and shows no sign of ending. Nashville and David Beckham's Miami start play next year, Austin in 2021 and at least three more teams are planned. The current expansion fee is \$200 million.

Twenty teams play in stadiums built for soccer or remodeled for the sport.

"When Don first became commissioner and when we went through those dark days, there was always the question of: Is the league going to survive? I don't think that's remotely a question today," Jonathan

Kraft said. "So that's a huge jump in a very short period of time."

Average attendance was 14,000 in 1999 and now is in the 21,000 to 22,000 range, just behind Italy's Serie A and France's Ligue 1, above both the NBA and NHL albeit with a shorter schedule.

Team payrolls range from the \$9 million to \$22 million — far below next season's salary caps of \$81.5 million for the NHL and \$109 million for the NBA.

To raise payroll, more revenue is needed. □

IndyCar to use hybrid technology to boost horsepower, safety

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — IndyCar plans to use hybrid technology to increase horsepower and improve safety.

The racing series announced Thursday it will integrate a hybrid powertrain into its cars beginning in 2022. The technology will use braking systems to create energy recovery and will include multi-phase motors, inverters and electric storage devices.

The hybrid systems will work in conjunction with the traditional, internal combustion engines built by Honda and Chevrolet to produce more than 900

horsepower.

The new systems also will increase the horsepower of the push-to-pass systems and allow drivers to restart their cars from the cockpit. That should minimize a driver's exposure if he or she stalls on the track. Cars currently have to be cranked using hand-held electric starters.

"It's an exciting time for IndyCar with the forthcoming evolution of the cars and innovations like the hybrid powertrain being incorporated into the new engine," IndyCar President Jay Frye said. "As we move toward the future, we will

remain true to our racing roots of being fast, loud and authentic, and simultaneously have the ability to add hybrid technology that is an important element for the series and our engine manufacturers."

The addition of the hybrid powertrain will delay the debut of IndyCar's new engine from 2021 to 2022, realigning it with the arrival of the next chassis. The delay also extends the window of opportunity for a third engine manufacturer to join Chevrolet and Honda in the series.

The new engine regulations will be in place for six



Will Power (12) leads Scott Dixon through a corner during the IndyCar Series auto race, Sunday, July 28, 2019, at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in Lexington, Ohio.

Associated Press

years — through the 2027 season — in an effort to provide stability for manufacturers and teams. □

'Erratic' online handle apt for Capital One hack suspect

By GENE JOHNSON and FRANK BAJAK
Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — The 33-year-old former Amazon software engineer accused of hacking Capital One made little attempt to hide her attack. In fact, she effectively publicized it.

It's one of many riddles swirling around Paige Thompson, who goes by the online handle "erratic." Well-known in Seattle's hacker community, Thompson has lived a life of tumult, with frequent job changes, reported estrangement from family and self-described emotional problems and drug use.

FBI agents arrested Thompson Monday for allegedly obtaining personal information from more than 100 million Capital One credit applications, including roughly 140,000 Social Security numbers and 80,000 bank account numbers. There is no evidence the data was sold or distributed to others.

Thompson, in federal custody pending an Aug. 15 detention hearing, wasn't reachable. Her public defender, Mohammad Hamoudi, did not return an emailed request for comment.

But her online behavior suggested that she may have been preparing to get caught. More than six weeks before her Monday arrest, Thompson had discussed the Capital One hack online with friends in chats and in a group she created on the Slack messaging service.



Vehicles are parked outside the home of Paige A. Thompson, who uses the online handle "erratic," Wednesday, July 31, 2019, in Seattle.

Associated Press

Those chats and the recollections of others offer a sketch of someone talented and troubled, grappling with what friends and her own posts indicate was an especially bumpy crossroads in her life.

Friends and associates described Thompson as a skilled programmer and software architect whose career and behavior — oversharing in chat groups, frequent profanity, expressions of gender confusion and emotional ups and downs — mirror her online handle.

"She had a habit of openly struggling with her state of mind in public channels," said Aife Dunne, an online friend. "It's where her screen name comes from."

Prior to working for Amazon, Thompson held six jobs, each for less than a year, at organizations such as ATG Stores, Onvia Inc. and Zion Preparatory Academy. She joined Amazon in 2015 to work at Amazon Web Services, a division that hosted the Capital One data she allegedly accessed illegally beginning in March.

When Thompson departed that job in 2016, she lost her apartment and moved into a group home. FBI agents who searched that house after her arrest also detained the owner, a convicted felon, for illegal possession of firearms when

they discovered roughly 20 guns, including assault rifles, on the property.

In a Wednesday court filing, federal authorities also accused Thompson of threatening to "shoot up" a California social media company. They did not offer details, citing a sealed police report.

Thompson forged friendships online and impressed many with her programming talent. But she also alienated people, particularly in Seattle's hacking community.

She dominated, sometimes monopolized chats on her favorite channel on Internet Relay Chat, a hacker mainstay, and in the Slack group she created. She was also active on Twitter; which suspended her account on Wednesday. The Associated Press obtained access to the Slack group, which was deleted Tuesday, and to IRC messages dating back to February 2018.

Thompson openly discussed the hack with friends and associates on several of those channels beginning in mid-June. In April, she created the group "Seattle Warez Kiddies" on the site Meetup — the month after prosecutors say she began hacking Capital One.

Friends told the AP they didn't believe she had carried out the Capital One

hack with malicious intent or for profit.

These people said they believed the unemployed Thompson — destitute and, by her own account, grappling with serious depression — believed the hack could bring her attention, respect and a new job.

"I think she wanted to release all of this responsibly but she didn't know how to do it," said Aleya Vaughan, 36, a friend who said she has texted with Thompson nearly every day for the past two years.

While often endearing online, Thompson could also be alienating and even menacing. Members of Seattle's "white hat" hacking community said Thompson had sometimes bombarded them with automated emails in what amounted to denial-of-service attacks.

Friends said Thompson was estranged from her mother, with whom she had moved from Arkansas as a child, and that her father had long been out of her life.

Sarah Stensberg said her husband, Kevin, met Thompson in a coding group for young people in the Seattle area and lived with her for a while. Thompson's abusive behavior eventually led the couple to cut off contact in 2011, she said. Prior to that, they sometimes took Thomp-

son to Seattle's Harborview Medical Center for mental treatment.

"We'd get her into inpatient treatment, we'd visit her, and she'd seem to be doing well," Stensberg said in an interview Tuesday. "Then she'd go off the deep end. We couldn't deal with it anymore."

Thompson repeatedly stalked and harassed them, including multiple insulting and demeaning messages, until they moved in part to get away from her, Stensberg said. Then, she said, Thompson used geolocation tracking from online postings to find their new home.

Last fall, the couple obtained protection orders against Thompson, which the AP reviewed along with their petitions.

In the Slack group, Thompson wrote in late June that she was seeing a therapist at least twice a month.

"Never a moment in which my mind can just be free," she typed, posting a photo of herself in new Armani sunglasses. After noting that she regretted her hacks and harassment of others, she wrote, "it (expletive) pisses me off, it pisses me off even more that im not in jail."

Her Twitter feed also reflected struggles.

"I'm going to go check into the mental hospital for an indefinite amount of time," she wrote in a public tweet on July 4. "I have a whole list of things that will ensure my involuntary confinement from the world. The kind that they can't ignore or brush off onto the crisis clinic. I'm never coming back." Thompson, who said in chats that she had been transitioning to a woman since age 22 with hormone treatment, wrote on the Slack group that her gender transition might have contributed to her mental anguish. She often discussed her use of legal and illegal drugs online.

The subject of suicide also arose frequently.

"I've tried to kill myself a few times," Thompson wrote on IRC on April 19, 2018. "I cant do it." □



Solid earnings reports push US stock indexes broadly higher

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks marched higher in late morning trading on Wall Street Thursday as investors focused on several solid earnings reports after a late bout of selling the day before.

Investors are nearing the end of a busy week that included Wednesday's widely anticipated quarter-point cut to the Federal Reserve's key interest rate. The market reacted with disappointment over the central bank's caution over future rate cuts. Major indexes are on track for weekly losses. The steady flow of corporate earnings continued and several big-name companies reported surprisingly good results. The latest round of reports has been better than Wall Street initially expected just a month ago.

Technology stocks led the early gains. Microsoft rose 3.1% and Apple rose 2.1%. Verizon rose 1.4% and helped lift communications stocks.

Consumer product mak-



In this July 22, 2019, file photo traders James Riley, left, and Mark Muller work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

Associated Press

ers rose broadly following a solid earnings report from cereal maker Kellogg. Surprisingly good results from General Motors and Yum Brands sent consumer-oriented stocks higher.

Concho Resources plunged 23.8% after releasing a disappointing quar-

terly report. A 3.1% drop in oil prices also helped push the broader energy sector lower.

Investors still have some key financial reports to look out for this week. Oil companies Exxon and Chevron will report results on Friday. The government will also

release its employment report for July on Friday.

KEEPING SCORE: The S&P 500 index rose 1% as of 11:40 a.m. Eastern time. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 291 points, or 1.1%, to 27,156. The Nasdaq composite rose 1.6%. Overseas, European markets were

mixed and Asian indexes closed broadly lower.

BONDS: Prices for U.S. government bond rose again, sending yields even lower. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury fell to 1.96%, the first time it's been below 2% since July 3. That yield, a benchmark used to set interest rates on mortgages and other loans, has been declining steadily since November when it traded as high as 3.23%.

The latest jump in bond prices is signaling that investors still feel there is a risk of an economic downturn, said Michelle Girard, chief U.S. economist at NatWest Markets. It also comes a day after the Federal Reserve cut its benchmark interest rate for the first time in a decade to shore up economic growth.

Stocks slumped late Wednesday after Fed Chairman Jerome Powell suggested the Fed was not about to embark on an extended cycle of lowering interest rates, as many investors had hoped. □

GM earnings rise 1% as buyers pay more for popular pickups

By **TOM KRISHER**
Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — General Motors said Thursday that higher prices for popular pickup trucks and SUVs helped overcome slowing global sales and profit rose by 1% in the second quarter.

The Detroit automaker said it made \$2.42 billion, or \$1.66 per share, from April through June. Adjusting for restructuring costs, GM made \$1.64 per share, blowing by analyst estimates of \$1.44. Quarterly revenue fell 2% to \$36.06 billion, but still beat estimates. Analysts polled by FactSet expected \$35.97 billion.

Global sales fell 6% to 1.94 million vehicles led by declines in North America and Asia Pacific, Middle East and Africa. The company says sales in China were weak, and it expects that to continue through the year.

In the United States, cus-

tomers paid an average of \$41,461 for a GM vehicle during the quarter, an increase of 2.2%, as buyers went for loaded-out pickups and SUVs, according to the Edmunds.com auto pricing site.

The U.S. is GM's most profitable market.

Chief Financial Officer Dhivya Suryadevara said she expects the strong pricing to continue, especially as GM rolls out a diesel pickup and new heavy-duty trucks in the second half of the year.

"We think the fundamentals do remain strong, especially in the truck market," she said, adding that strength in the overall economy and aging trucks now on the road should help keep the trend going.

Light trucks accounted for 83.1% of GM's sales in the quarter, and pickup truck sales rose 8.5% as GM transitioned to new models of the Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra, accord-

ing to Edmunds, which provides content to The Associated Press.

As usual, GM made most of its money in North America, reporting \$3 billion in pre-tax earnings. International operations including China broke even, while the company spent \$300 million on its GM Cruise automated vehicle unit. Its financial arm made \$500 million in pretax income.

Suryadevara said GM saw \$700 million in savings during the quarter from restructuring actions announced late last year that included cutting about 8,000 white-collar workers through layoffs, buyouts and early retirements. The company also announced plans to close five North American factories, shedding another 6,000 jobs. About 3,000 factory workers in the U.S. whose jobs were eliminated at four plants will be placed at other factories, but they could have to relocate. □



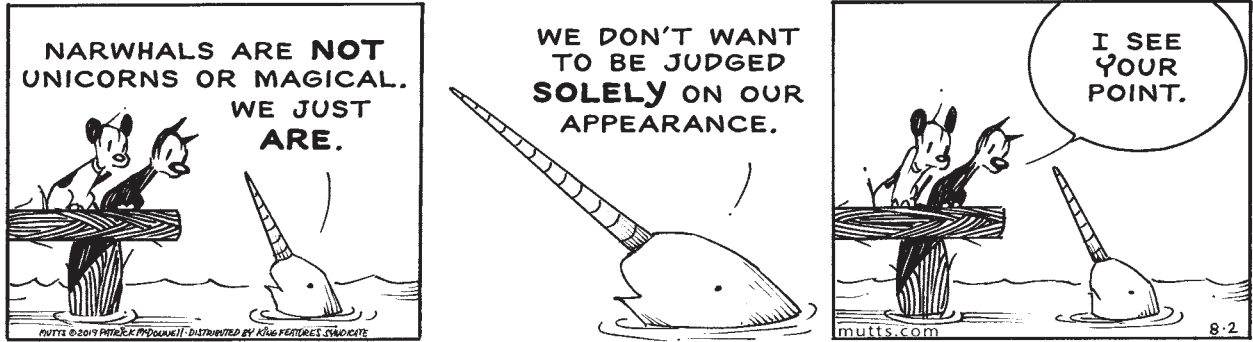
In this July 16, 2019, file photo Chief Executive Officer Mary Barra speaks during the opening of contract talks with the United Auto Workers in Detroit.

Associated Press

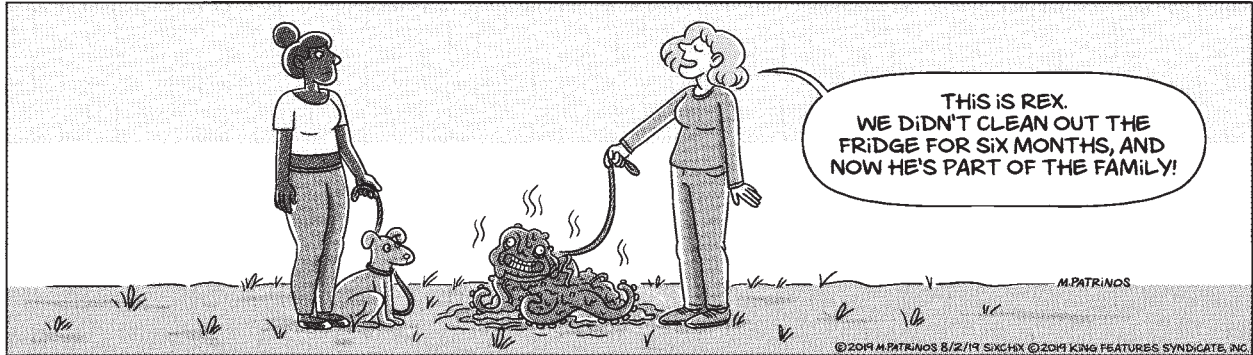
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Mutts



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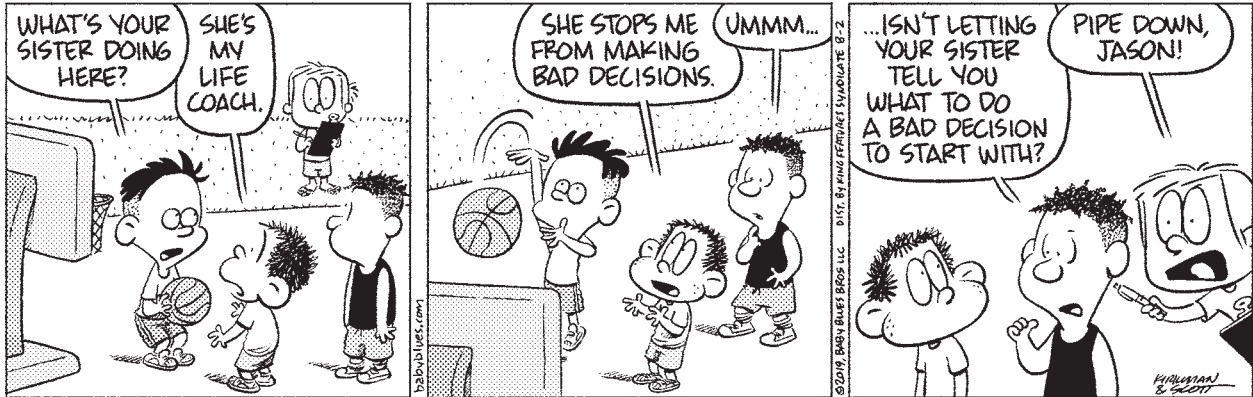
Blondie



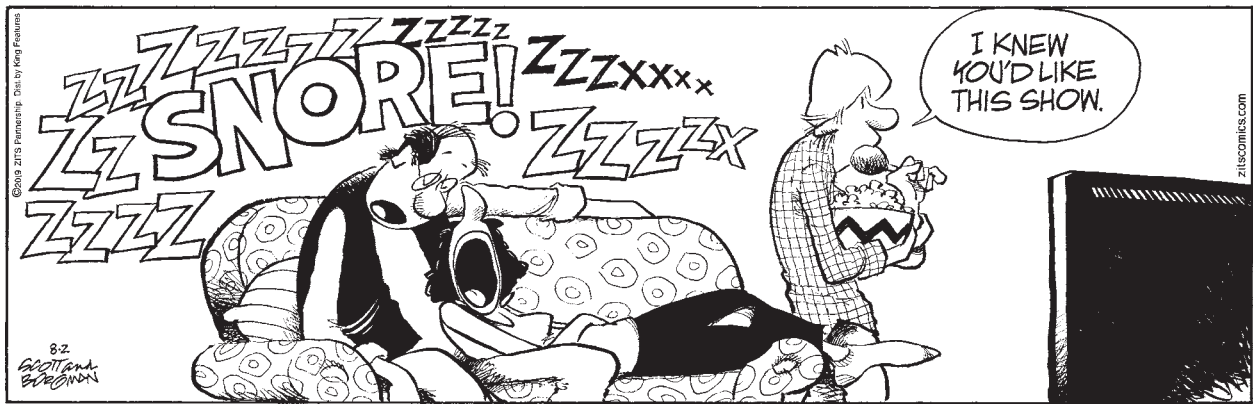
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		3			5			2
		1			6			3
6			3			5		
		5			4			1
		6						8
9			5			6		
		9			2			7
		2			1			5
4			8			3		

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

8/02

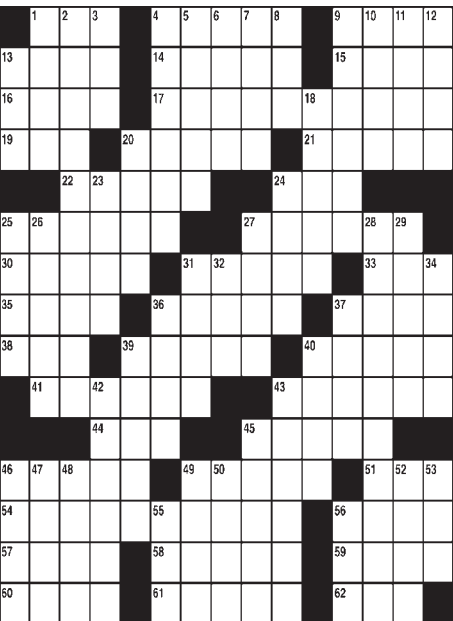
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

3	6	5	8	9	4	2	1	7
2	9	1	6	5	7	8	4	3
8	4	7	2	3	1	6	5	9
1	5	6	3	7	2	9	8	4
4	2	3	1	8	9	5	7	6
9	7	8	4	6	5	1	3	2
5	3	4	9	1	6	7	2	8
7	8	9	5	2	3	4	6	1
6	1	2	7	4	8	3	9	5

ACROSS

- 1 "___" Doubtfire
4 City near Boise
9 Plato or Carvey
13 Rind
14 As sore as ___
15 Diner sign
16 Take it ___; relax
17 Cold symptom
19 Actress MacGraw
20 Closes
21 ___Barbera; "Yogi Bear" producer
22 Train station
24 Children's running game
25 Large scissors
27 Most impolite
30 Reagan or Pelosi
31 West Point newcomer
33 Chop down
35 ___ along; move slowly
36 Parakeet's lunch
37 Religious leader
38 Foot digit
39 Pays a landlord
40 Fight off
41 Personal hang-ups
43 Selected
44 ___ Royal Highness; HRH
45 British fellow
46 Buddy, for one
49 Weasel
51 D's followers
54 Unproven charge
56 "It Came ___ a Midnight Clear"
57 Crush
58 Man of the cloth
59 Ecuador's neighbor
60 Goals
61 Lock of hair
62 "___ You Lonesome Tonight?"



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/2/19

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

SAIL	EARTH	ARMS
NINE	STOKE	BEAU
ALSO	COLOR	BLIND
PSI	GONE	LANES
GLARE	FEZ	
COHORT	DINERS	
ANTS	FIELD	EAT
LEFT	MORAL	GETA
LOU	DARED	SODAS
FLEECE	DEBUNK	
LAS	MANIC	
STEEL	FIND	ASA
PRACTICING	ASTOR	
AUST	DANCE	HEAR
NETS	OWNER	ESPY

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8/2/19

DOWN

- 1 Word attached to corn or oat
2 Homes
3 Underhanded
4 Cheese-topped tortilla chips
5 Approximately

- 40 Public uprising
42 Martin & Charlie
43 737 and 747
45 Ill-mannered slob
46 Merit; deserve
47 Cornflower's color
48 Skirt opening
49 Have the lead role
50 Wave movement
52 Golf course cry
53 Widebeast
55 Likely
56 Take ___ trade; begin one's career

Australian farmer says human orthopedic plate found in croc

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)

— An Australian farmer who found an orthopedic plate inside a crocodile's stomach said on Thursday he had been told the surgical device was from a human and had been contacted by relatives of missing persons anxious for clues.

Koorana Crocodile Farm owner John Lever found the plate inside a 4.7-meter (15-foot-5) croc called M.J. during an autopsy in June at his business near Rockhampton in Queensland state.

He initially wasn't sure if the unusual find had been part of an animal or human. But he said since making photos of the plate public, he had been told it was a type used in human surgery.

Lever estimated that M.J. was between 50 and 70 years old when he died. M.J. could have eaten the bone that the plate had been attached to by six screws 50 years ago, he said.

All remnants of human tissue attached to the plate had been long digested before M.J. died several months after losing a fight with another croc.

Lever is continuing to make inquiries in the hope of discovering what decade the type of plate was used and perhaps who it had be-

longed to.

"I wouldn't call it an investigation, we're making inquiries because we're fascinated by this whole thing," Lever said. "Obviously this crocodile has chomped on something and that plate has been left in its stomach complete with screws."

Lever bought M.J. from a farmer in Innisfail, 1,000 kilometers (600 miles), north of Rockhampton, six years ago. Sometime earlier, M.J. had been trapped in the wild. Crocodiles are protected in Australia and are only trapped if they are a threat to humans.

"We've had a couple of people get in touch with us about their relatives that have gone missing in the northern Queensland area and they're anxious to find out — there's been nothing heard of these people, they've just disappeared," Lever said. "We'll certainly keep these people informed of any new news that we can get."

The last fatal crocodile attack in Australia was in 2017, when a 79-year-old dementia patient was killed after wandering from a nursing home at Port Douglas in Queensland.

Crocodile population has exploded across the country's tropical north since the 1970s. □

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Oceanview \$15k
3BEDROOM \$26k
*WK. 51 GV \$39k
*WK 52 OV \$46k
* Weeks 7 and 14-all views

Marriott Aruba Ocean Club

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Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
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American Airlines	582 2700
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August 7
Monarch
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Narcotics Anonymous
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Centre for Diabetes
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Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118



Walloped by heat wave, Greenland sees massive ice melt

By DAVID RISING

Associated Press Writer

BERLIN (AP) — The heat wave that smashed high temperature records in five European countries a week ago is now over Greenland, accelerating the melting of the island's ice sheet and causing massive ice loss in the Arctic.

Greenland, the world's largest island, is a semi-autonomous Danish territory between the Atlantic and Arctic oceans that has 82% of its surface covered in ice.

The area of the Greenland ice sheet that is showing indications of melt has been growing daily, and hit a record 56.5% for this year on Wednesday, said Ruth Mottram, a climate scientist with the Danish Meteorological Institute. She says that's expected to expand and peak on Thursday before cooler temperatures slow the pace of the melt. More than 10 billion tons (11 billion U.S. tons) of ice was lost to the oceans by surface melt on Wednesday alone, creating a net mass ice loss of some 197 billion tons (217 billion U.S. tons) from Greenland in July, she said.

"It looks like the peak will be today. But the long-term forecast is for continuing warm and sunny weather in Greenland, so that means the amount of the ice loss will continue," she said Thursday in a telephone interview from Copenhagen. The scope of Wednesday's ice melt is a number difficult to grasp. To understand just how much ice is being lost, a mere 1 billion tons — or 1 gigaton — of ice loss is equivalent to about 400,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools, the



In this image taken on June 22, 2019 an aerial view of melt water lakes on the edge of an ice cap in Nunatarssuk, Greenland.

Associated Press

Danish Meteorological Institute said. And 100 billion tons (110 billion U.S. tons) corresponds to a 0.28 mm (0.01 inch) rise in global sea levels.

Mottram said since June 1 — roughly the start of the ice-loss season — the Greenland ice sheet has lost 240 gigatons (240 billion metric tons) this year. That compares with 290 gigatons lost overall in the 2012 melt season, which usually goes through the end of August. A June 2019 study by scientists in the U.S. and Denmark said melting ice in Greenland alone will add between 5 and 33 centimeters (2 to 13 inches) to rising global sea levels by the year 2100. If all the ice in Greenland melted — which would take centuries — the world's oceans would rise by 7.2 meters (23 feet, 7 inches), the study found.

The current melting has been brought on by the arrival of the same warm air from North Africa and Spain that melted European cities and towns last week, setting national temperature records in Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Britain.

In Russia, meanwhile, forest fires caused by hot, dry weather and spread by high winds are raging over nearly 30,000 square kilometers (11,580 sq. miles) of territory in Siberia and the Russian Far East, an area the size of Belgium. The smoke from these fires, some of them in Arctic territory, is so heavy it can easily be seen in satellite photos and is causing air quality problems in Russia's third-largest city, Novosibirsk. Protesters in Moscow on Thursday were demanding that the government do more to fight the blazes. Greenland has also been battling a slew of Arctic

wildfires, something that Mottram said was uncommon in the past.

In Greenland, the melt area this year is the second-biggest in terms of ice area affected, behind more than 90% in 2012, said Mark Serreze, director of the Snow and Ice Data Center in Boulder, Colorado, which monitors ice sheets globally. Records go back to 1981.

A lot of what melts can later refreeze onto the ice sheet, but because of the conditions ahead of this summer's heat wave, the amount of ice lost for good this year might be the same as in 2012 or more, according to scientists. They noted a long build up to this summer's ice melt — including higher overall temperatures for months — and a very dry winter with little snow in many places, which would normally offer some protection to glacier ice.

"This is certainly a weather

event superimposed on this overall trend of warmer conditions" that have increasingly melted Greenland ice over the long term, Serreze said.

Compounding the melt, the Greenland ice sheet started out behind this year because of the low ice and snow accumulation, said Snow and Ice Data Center scientist Twila Moon.

With man-made climate change, "there's a potential for these kind of rates to become more common 50 years from now," Moon said. Heat waves have always occurred, but Mike Sparrow, a spokesman for the U.N. World Meteorological Organization, noted that as global temperatures have risen, extreme heat waves are now occurring at least 10 times more frequently than a century ago. This year, the world saw its hottest month of June ever.

"These kind of heat waves are weather events and can occur naturally but studies have shown that both the frequency and intensity of these heat waves have increased due to global warming," Sparrow said in a telephone interview from Geneva.

He noted that sea ice spread in the Arctic and Antarctic are both currently at record lows.

"When people talk about the average global temperature increasing by a little more than 1 degree (Celsius), that's not a huge amount to notice if you're sitting in Hamburg or London, but that's a global average and it's much greater in the polar regions," he said. Even though temperatures will be going down in Greenland by the end of this week, the ice melt is not likely to stop anytime soon, Mottram said.

"Over the last couple of days, you could see the warm wave passing over Greenland," she said. "That peak of warm air has passed over the summit of the ice sheet, but the clear skies are almost as important, or maybe even more important, for the total melt of the ice sheet." □

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Edward Snowden book coming out Sept. 17

By HILLEL ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden has written a memoir. The book by the man whose leaks of classified documents transformed the debate about government surveillance is coming out September 17. Metropolitan Books, an imprint of Macmillan Publishers, announced Thursday that Snowden's "Permanent Record" will be released simultaneously in more than 20 countries, including the U.S., Germany and Britain. According to Metropolitan, Snowden will describe his role in the accumulation of metadata and the "crisis of conscience" that led him to steal a trove of files in 2013 and share them with reporters. Metropolitan spokeswoman Pat Eisemann declined to offer additional details. Snowden noted in a tweet

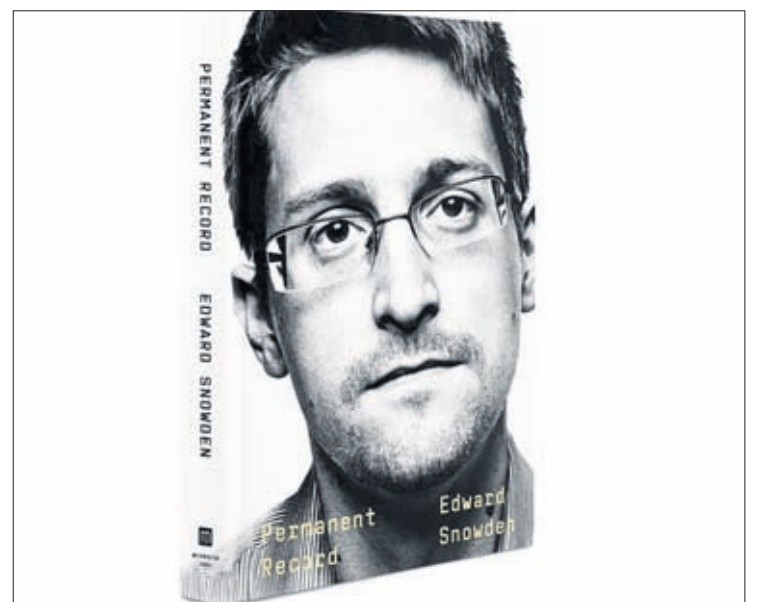
Thursday that the book would be released on Constitution Day and added that he had "just completed an international conspiracy across 20 countries, and somehow the secret never leaked."

Snowden, who faces U.S. charges that could land him in prison, is currently living in exile in Moscow and promotion here will likely be restricted to interviews done by remote. He has been widely condemned by intelligence officials, who allege Snowden has caused lasting damage to national security, and defended by civil libertarians and other privacy advocates who praise Snowden for revealing the extent of information the government was gathering. Notable revelations included a massive program collecting metadata on millions of domestic phone calls.

"Edward Snowden decided at the age of 29 to give

up his entire future for the good of his country," John Sargent, CEO of Macmillan, said in a statement. "He displayed enormous courage in doing so, and like him or not, his is an incredible American story. There is no doubt that the world is a better and more private place for his actions. Macmillan is enormously proud to publish 'Permanent Record.'"

Financial details were not disclosed for a book that was itself a covert project, quietly acquired a year ago by Macmillan and identified under code names in internal documents. Snowden's primary contact with the publisher was his principal legal adviser, Ben Wizner, director of the American Civil Liberties Union's Speech, Privacy, and Technology Project. "Publishing Ed Snowden has been a remarkable learning experience," Sargent told The Associated Press.



This image provided by Metropolitan Books shows the cover of Edward Snowden's "Permanent Record." Snowden has written a memoir.

Associated Press

"The complexities of internet security today have been eye-opening." Snowden's story was told in part in the Oscar-winning documentary "Citizenfour" and in the Oliver Stone movie "Snowden." In 2014, Metropolitan published

"No Place to Hide: Edward Snowden, the NSA, and the U.S. Surveillance State," by Pulitzer Prize winner Glenn Greenwald, whose reporting for the Guardian helped break the Snowden story. Greenwald also was featured in "Citizenfour." □

A spinoff happily spins its wheels in 'Hobbs & Shaw'

By JAKE COYLE
NEW YORK (AP) — Add an "e" and "Hobbs & Shaw" might have been a time-traveling thriller about playwright George Bernard Shaw and 17th century philosopher Thomas Hobbes. Tantalizing as such a pairing may have been to the makers of "Fast & Furious," they have instead opted to, in the franchise's first spinoff, combine two of the series' supporting stand-

outs, Dwayne Johnson's U.S. government agent Luke Hobbs and Jason Statham's former British agent Deckard Shaw, for another ballet of Buicks and bullets. Probably a wise choice. It's difficult to imagine the writer of "Pygmalion" careening down the side of a skyscraper in hot pursuit of Idris Elba.

And when it comes to high-octane action spectacles, few are better suited to the



This image released by Universal Pictures shows Dwayne Johnson, left, and Jason Statham in a scene from "Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw."

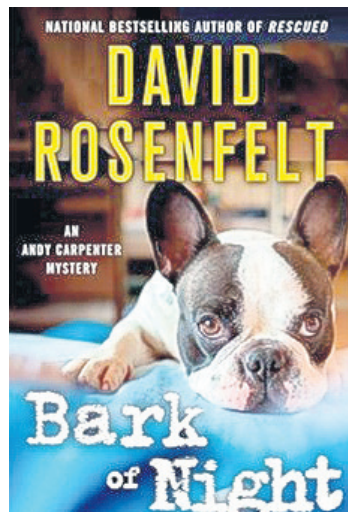
Associated Press

task than The Rock and Statham, who both make up with brawn and charisma what they lack in hair. In the "Fast & Furious" franchise, which now numbers eight films and more than \$5 billion in box office, they've found a comfortable home

—aside any headaches for Johnson caused by co-star Vin Diesel. That friction between Johnson and Diesel was reportedly part of the benefit of this pit stop, without the whole gang, in between continuing "Fast & Furi-

ous" adventures. But those off-camera tiffs are also perfect for the speedy but soapy "Fast & Furious" world, where family squabbles and questions of loyalty play out in between death-defying automotive stunts. □

Rosenfelt's new thriller, 'Bark of Night,' is a treat



This book cover image released by Minotaur shows "Bark of Night," by David Rosenfelt.

Associated Press

By WAKA TSUNODA
Associated Press

"Bark of Mystery: an Andy Carpenter Night" (Minotaur Books), by David Rosenfelt
Andy Carpenter, a fictitious defense attorney created by David Rosenfelt,


hates to work. He doesn't need money because he's wealthy from a large inheritance. He loves dogs, so when one is in peril, he springs to the rescue.

"Bark of Night," the latest in the Carpenter series, begins when a man pays a veterinarian to euthanize a healthy French bulldog. Carpenter discovers the dog's name is Truman and that his owner, documentary filmmaker James Haley, was murdered near Carpenter's home in Paterson, New Jersey.

The police arrest Joey Gamble, 20, who was interviewed by Haley on the day of the murder, but Carpenter suspects the man who tried to kill Truman may be the true culprit. He decides to defend Gamble, puts Truman in "protective custody" at a dog rescue organization that

he operates, and starts his investigation. These actions alarm a group of gangsters — the author's favorite antagonists — because they fear the attorney could expose their moneymaking scheme.

Carpenter is in danger, but he's not worried. He's protected by his ex-police-woman wife, Laurie Collins, and his bodyguard Marcus Clark, "the single scariest and toughest person on the planet."

A series of local and nationwide murders follows, and Carpenter begins to see an odd pattern: some of the victims are homeless. Why should anyone want to kill people with no money? He's puzzled, but in the end, connects the dots and saves Gamble and Truman. "Bark of Night" is a treat, especially for those who love thrillers and dogs. 

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VIP	3D VERSION MON-FRI 5:50 8:50 SAT-SUN 2:50 5:50 8:50
PBP	CXC MON-SUN 2:30 5:25 8:30
PBP	VIP MON-SUN 3:30 6:25 9:20
PBP	MON-THU & SUN 1:40 4:35 7:30 FRI-SAT 1:40 4:35 7:30 10:25

NICOLAS CAGE | BENJAMIN BRATT
A SCORE TO SETTLE
NR

PH MON-FRI & SUN 7:05 | 9:30
SAT 7:05 | 9:30 | 11:55

DAVID GLOVER | BEYONCÉ KNOWLES-CARTER
THE LION KING
Disney
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

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SUN 2:20 | 3:10 | 5:00 | 5:50 | 7:40 | 8:30

PBP MON-SUN 1:15 | 2:05 | 3:50 | 4:45 | 6:25 | 9:00

SPANISH
MON-THU & SUN 2:50 | 5:25 | 8:00
FRI-SAT 2:50 | 5:25 | 8:00 | 10:35

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DAVE BAUTISTA | KUMAIL MANJIANI
STUBER
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES R

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TOM HOLLAND | SAMUEL L. JACKSON
SPIDER-MAN Far From Home
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PG-13

PBP MON-THU & SUN 2:55 | 5:35 | 8:20
FRI-SAT 2:55 | 5:35 | 8:20 | 11:05

JOHN TRAVOLTA | MORGAN FREEMAN
THE POISON ROSE
R

PBP MON-THU & SUN 7:25 | 9:35
FRI-SAT 7:25 | 9:35 | 11:45

CATS
NR

PH MON-FRI 4:55
FRI-SAT 2:45 | 4:55

KAYA SCODELARIO | BARRY PEPPER
CRAWL
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES R

PBP MON-THU & SUN 1:05 | 3:10 | 5:15
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Bandwagon builds for LGBTQ diversity on children's TV

By LEANNE ITALIE

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Wilson Cruz, a co-star in the new Hulu animated children's series "The Bravest Knight," describes the show's dad couple this way: "We're not explaining homosexuality, or same-gender sexuality. We're talking about the love of a family."

His words and those of his fellow Hulu father, T.R. Knight, speak loudly about the state of LGBTQ representation in TV fare for kids, a segment of media that has been broadening story lines over the last several years to include a range of non-binary characters.

"It's these parents that love her and care about her. That's it," Knight told The Associated Press in a recent joint interview with Cruz, referring to their cartoon daughter, Nia, a brave knight-in-training.

Seeing same-sex parents, gay marriage and general expressions of romantic non-binary affection is something the 46-year-old Knight wishes he had been exposed to growing up in Minneapolis.

"You feel starved, and you feel lonely, and that depression and that loneliness, it ain't healthy," he said.

Based on a 2014 book by Daniel Errico, the show comes soon after the long-running "Arthur" series on PBS featured a same-sex wedding for the first time, facing a ban in Alabama in the process. In June, the Hasbro-created "My Little Pony" series on Disney showed its first lesbian couple, Aunt Holiday and Auntie Lofty, who care for a young pony named Scootaloo.

"We have featured many types of families in the show over the past nine seasons and we hope this helps to provide kids and fans from all backgrounds an opportunity to identify with our characters and learn from their stories," said a Hasbro spokeswoman, Julie Duffy.

Zeke Stokes, chief programs officer for the media monitoring nonprofit GLAAD, said the struggle for inclu-



This image released by Hulu shows characters, from left, Prince Andrew, voiced by Wilson Cruz, Nia, voiced by Storm Reid, and Sir Cedric, voiced by T.R. Knight in a scene from the animated children's series "The Bravest Knight."

Associated Press

sion has become easier as a number of LGBTQ writers and producers have made their way into positions of influence, though they're still a fraction overall.

"What we've said to them all along is that we will lock arms with you and we will make sure that you hear from the families who are being impacted by this in a positive way," Stokes said of GLAAD's work behind the scenes to support greater representation. "Not only have they heard from LGBTQ families but they've heard from other families who are like, yeah, my kid has a friend who's LGBTQ or my friend goes over to his friend's house and their parents are LGBTQ. This is not just something that impacts LGBTQ families. It's really something that gets experienced by everyone in society."

Sometimes, he said, GLAAD is called on to review LGBTQ content before it airs. It happened on "Andi Mack," a live-action, coming-of-age tween series that premiered on the Disney Channel in 2017, when a gay character, Cyrus, was coming out. The comedy-drama won GLAAD's inaugural media award for outstanding kids and family programming last year but was canceled after three seasons.

This year's GLAAD winner was one of the animated groundbreakers, "Steven Universe," which has also

earned a Peabody Award and has fans of all ages since it premiered on the Cartoon Network in 2013. The show features the world of the Crystal Gems, magical human-like aliens who live with young Steven, a half-human, half-Gem boy who turns into the intersex "Stevonnie" after dancing close with a girl and "fusing," a skill driven by affection.

A kiss between two of the three female-presenting Gems with whom Steven lives, Ruby and Sapphire, prompted a halfhearted online petition four years ago demanding the show pull back from LGBTQ themes. It didn't.

Fallout in 2005 for the "Arthur" spin-off "Postcards from Buster" was a bigger deal. Then-U.S. Education Secretary Margaret Spellings demanded that PBS return federal funding over the inclusion in one episode of lesbian parents. PBS decided not to air the episode, "Sugartime!" The show's co-producer, WGBH in Boston, distributed the episode directly to public television stations after the PBS decision. Some, includ-

ing WGBH, aired it.

"It was a huge national scandal. It was early in my career and that incident really scarred us, those of us who are gay content creators," said Chris Nee, who was the showrunner for Disney Junior's Peabody-winning preschool hit "Doc McStuffins."

"There was this idea that this was something you really couldn't broach. The younger generation of content creators are not only bolder to begin with but also don't remember all of that stuff," she said.

Her "Doc McStuffins" aired an episode in 2017, "The Emergency Plan," that featured a biracial, two-mom household, voiced by Wanda Sykes and Portia de Rossi. Today, the Emmy-winning Nee said, airing LGBTQ content for children is still fraught for some.

"I know that there really is backlash for each of the companies and so they tiptoe," she said. "Big broadcasters are not always our bravest souls. But a lot of companies are working very hard to change what's out there."

Streaming has helped, no-

tably Amazon Prime and Netflix, where Nee has a multiyear deal after leaving Disney. Among those without specific LGBTQ cast members or characters is the PBS mainstay "Sesame Street," known for embracing a wide range of diversity over its 50-year history. The show referenced two dads as far back as 1982, in a song, and two moms in a more recent segment about families, among other examples.

Non-binary actress Asia Kate Dillon, who plays Taylor Mason on Showtime's "Billions," said they would have benefited from the exposure as a kid growing up in Ithaca, New York. At 34, they also voice Val/entina, a gender fluid former Russian agent, on the animated web series "gen:LOCK."

"It would have been life-changing in many ways," they said. "It's one of the reasons I feel really proud and also humbled to be playing Taylor on 'Billions' and also The Adjudicator in 'John Wick 3.' These are non-binary characters who are getting wide visibility and who are integral characters in the stories that they're a part of. ... I get messages from people of all ages all over the world who say they feel less alone." Shadi Petosky, who is trans, was co-creator and showrunner of the short-lived 2017 "Danger & Eggs" animated series on Amazon Prime. The series was known for its LGBTQ representation on air and off. There was a lesbian folk duo, gay dads, a young trans girl, Zadie, voiced by teen trans activist Jazz Jennings, and a non-binary character named Milo, who was voiced by gender activist and model Tyler Ford. The show's finale was set during a Pride festival. □



A makeover for milkweed, for the sake of butterflies

By **CALVIN WOODWARD**
Associated Press

QUEBEC CITY (AP) — For generations, North American farmers have despised milkweed and done their best to rid their lands of it. "I hate to have milkweed in my strawberry field," Nathalie Leonard says from her farm by the Quebec village of Lac-du-Cerf. So why does she have 60 acres of milkweed growing on purpose? It's for the sake of butterflies — the iconic monarchs. And for a chance to turn milkweed into profit.

"Every weed," she says, "is only a weed because it's in the wrong place." Leonard and her partners in Monark, a co-operative of farmers through Quebec and into Vermont, hope milkweed now has found its rightful place in their fields.

Intrigued by the notion of helping to restore the sinking population of monarch butterflies — and persuaded by the stirrings of a new market — these farmers began clearing land or ripping out cash crops and turning precious acres over to a plant they'd previously seen as a nuisance.

The milkweed makeover began when researchers in Quebec transformed the plant's silky fibers into a high-end insulation material for winter clothing and advanced other commercial uses for it, like sound insulation and absorption for oil spills. Winter coats stuffed with milkweed fiber reached outdoor retailers in 2016, fetching \$800 or more apiece. The Ca-



In this July 22, 2019, file photo, a Monarch butterfly eats nectar from a swamp milkweed on the shore of Rock Lake in Pequot Lakes, Minn.

Associated Press

nadian Coast Guard tried milkweed garb and liked it. And as a side benefit, the distinctive honey from milkweed fields is prized.

Yet the company formed to process and market the fiber collapsed last year, forcing the farmers who grow it to step in and try to make a go of the whole milkweed initiative. They're on track for perhaps their best harvest in the five or so years since the milkweed experiment began, but where the fiber will go after the fall is uncertain.

The orange and black monarchs are wholly dependent on milkweed. The plant is the only host for their eggs and sole sustenance for the caterpillars, which feed on milky secretions from the leaves. Milkweed

has been in rapid retreat, crowded by urban development, attacked along roadways, and driven from pastoral landscapes by herbicides that spare resistant corn and soybeans.

A ritual of autumn — cracking the dry pods to watch the seed-bearing white fluff escape and catch the winds — has faded.

But in recent years, as the plight of the monarchs became more pronounced, communities, schools and gardeners began planting patches of milkweed along roads and public buildings and in backyards to give the butterfly a fighting chance.

A 2017 study at the University of Guelph in Ontario found there's nothing more effective in this effort than the all-you-can-eat buffet of a farmer's field of milkweed — visible from the sky, rooted in rich soil, and isolated from traffic and pollution.

When University of Vermont agronomist Heather Darby first heard of Quebec's initiative, from a man who called looking for Vermont farmers to join, she was thrown. Milkweed is toxic to livestock — one study says it gives cows "profound depression" on the rare chance they eat it. It's been a mark of shame on farmlands, a sign of sloppy

maintenance.

"Oh gosh, here's another one of those people with some crazy idea and he wants farmers to grow milkweed!" she remembered thinking. "But I listened." After learning that hundreds of Quebec acres were already under milkweed production, she reached out to farmers in Vermont whom she considered innovators — people who would "want to listen, wouldn't laugh too hard, might try it out." Now, more than 100 farmers in Quebec and about a half dozen in Vermont are producing milkweed for Monark, of which Nathalie Leonard serves as president.

THE PLANT

The ecological and eco-

nomie promise of milkweed prompted Roger Rainville to convert 50 prime acres of his farm lining the Canadian border to milkweed several years ago.

"This was a whole field, from here to the woods, of just beautiful alfalfa," he said, gesturing over the dense green crop of purple-flowered milkweed, 3 miles (5 km) north of Alburgh, Vermont, as he awaited the monarchs on their northern summer migration.

"You get along roadsides and there's not much fertility there. I tell farmers, if you're going to grow this, if you try something new, do it on your best soil," he said. Farmers from across the U.S. call him to ask how to get going with milkweed.

At Rainville's farm, Darby waded into waist-high milkweed, bending to sniff tightly knit flowers that she likened to lilacs. The ugly-duckling weed was looking handsome and smelling fine.

"What better opportunity to preserve an insect that's just so dearly loved by so many people, so globally known," Darby said, "but also seeing it come together with agriculture in such a beneficial way."

It takes two or three years after planting for milkweed to flower and produce the pods bursting with fluff. Once established, they can be irrepressible.

On her Lac-du-Cerf farm, Leonard will have her first harvest this autumn, her second year after planting.

□



This June 22, 2019 photo shows Milkweed is in full flower on Roger Rainville's farm along the Canadian border in Alburgh, Vt.

Associated Press



This June 22, 2019 photo shows University of Vermont agricultural researcher Heather Darby and Vermont farmer Roger Rainville waist-deep in a field of milkweed, in Alburgh, Vt.

Associated Press